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# VERITAS

A SELWYN HOUSE SCHOOL PUBLICATION



# VERITAS

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# Challenges and opportunities

By William Mitchell, Headmaster

When we returned to school in September, Senior and Middle School students benefited from the completion of Phase 3A of our capital project, the renovation of the biology, physics and chemistry labs. We are especially grateful to Francesco and Marisa Bellini for their generosity in contributing so substantially to the modernization of our labs.

Were you to visit the school this summer, you would see work furiously underway on Phase 3B: the conversion of the former Lucas gym into a combination dining hall/auditorium and the extensive renovation of the kitchen. Thus, by September, we will have completed our facilities renewal project, which began in 1999.

The re-organization of space and the complete integration of technology have complemented existing teaching methods comprehensively and effectively.

We are overwhelmingly grateful for the support of so many, and wish to thank the Fundraising Committee of the Board and its chairman, Mark Smith, for their efforts to ensure Phase 3B is completed this summer. We plan to celebrate the success of the entire project at Founder's Day in November.

While there will always be ongoing capital needs—playgrounds, athletic fields, window replacement, to name a few—our major facility requirements are now largely addressed. The next focus of our efforts for major fundraising will be to build our now-relatively-modest endowment. The principal objective of the endowment is to enhance our financial assistance programme so that we can secure full enrollment by continuing to attract well qualified students.

With that long-range objective in mind, it is important to have some understanding of the context in which Selwyn House will be operating for the next few years, and to describe briefly the challenges the school faces and the opportunities we anticipate as we work to move the school forward.

First, enrollment—the lifeblood of the school. Again, next year, we will have full enrollment, but over the next few years, all schools face the challenge of responding to declining demographics.

The second challenge facing the school is the matter of Bill 104. As you will no doubt remember, this is legislation passed in 2002 that

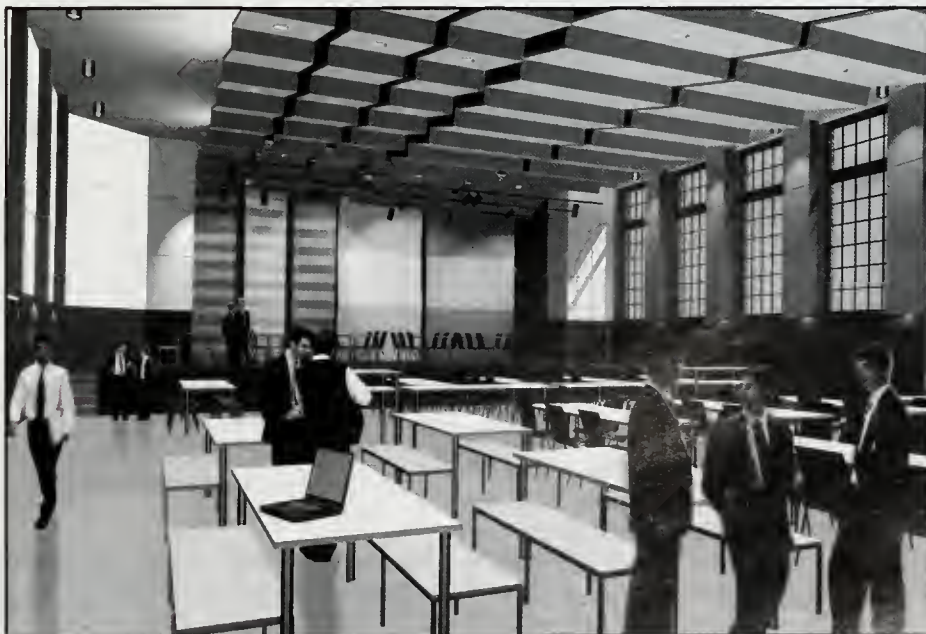
significantly restricts access to English education. At the recent hearing before the Quebec Court of Appeal, the Quebec Association of Independent Schools was an intervener in what is called the Nguyen Case, which is challenging Bill 104 on constitutional grounds. We await the decision of the court.

The third challenge is the class-action suits filed against the school. As these matters are now before the courts, there is relatively little I can report, except to assure the Selwyn House community, once again, that the allegations are serious and we take them seriously. A Selwyn House Board committee is overseeing the process. Currently, mostly procedural issues are being dealt with at the instruction of the presiding justice of the Superior Court.

The fourth challenge for the school is to ensure that our accreditation process, under the Canadian Educational Standards Institute, is complete and comprehensive. The visiting committee will be on campus for four days in late April 2007.

And lastly, in 2008, the school will celebrate its 100th birthday. Work has begun on the planning of events around that celebration. Our aim will be to celebrate 100 years of excellence in education, to reacquaint as many constituents as possible with the school, and to have fun. You will be hearing more about our plans during the next school year.

So, as it should be, there is much to be done, in challenging times, as we work to keep Selwyn House at the forefront of independent education.



Architectural rendering of the new dining hall

# Old Boy surgeon answers the call in Pakistan

By Talat Chughtai '85

At 8:50 a.m. on October 8, 2005, a massive earthquake struck Pakistan. This date will be etched in the minds of the Pakistani people, just as September 11, 2001 is for Americans. It was a six-minute event that has changed, and continues to profoundly affect, the lives of over three million people living in northern Pakistan. Fewer than 3,000 persons died on September 11.

My parents emigrated from Pakistan around 1960. I was born in Canada. Like everyone else in Canada and in the rest of the world, my first exposure to the earthquake was through the continuous news coverage with scenes of immense catastrophe, punctuated by frequent ads asking for donations. One particular ad that stuck in my mind asked, "What are you waiting for?" Like many others, I donated via the Internet and, though very distraught, continued with my daily routine as a surgeon in Toronto.

The earthquake, I soon learned, registered a magnitude 7.6. It was caused by the same forces that have created the beautiful Himalayan Mountains. The Indian plate of the earth's crust moves north two inches per year, driving against the Eurasian plate. When it gets stuck, pressure builds, and when this pressure releases, it generates an earthquake about 10 km below the earth's surface. In this case, the epicenter was near the Kashmiri capital of Muzaffarabad, as well as the city of Balakot. Its effects were felt as far away as Islamabad, the main capital city of Pakistan. The death toll to date is more than 80,000, with more than 200,000 injured, and over three million left homeless. The numbers continue to rise. The earthquake also claimed 26 hospitals and 600 clinics, along with many of the area's health-care workers. The scenes I and the rest of the world observed in the days after the earthquake were of entire villages wiped out,



Talat Chughtai '85 consoles a young patient.

buildings, including schools and houses, turned to rubble, with thousands of people buried beneath and hundreds of thousands left injured. Many have called it the largest surgical disaster in (recent) history.

The entire country mobilized to help. Doctors from all over Pakistan left their practices to join the relief effort. Despite this immense show of support, local doctors and other health-care workers were overwhelmed and needed help from the rest of the world...and the world responded. Field hospitals were set up and manned by doctors from countries from every continent. Canada had sent a DART team to perform logistical services, such as water purification. The only Canadian NGO on the scene was the Canadian Medical Assist Team

(CMAT) of the Canadian Relief Foundation (CRF).

My direct involvement began one night while watching TV on a Pakistani specialty channel. During an interview, the Pakistani president, General Pervez Musharraf, proclaimed, "We need money...and we need surgeons..." At that moment I knew I would be heading to Pakistan. Almost at the same time, I received a phone call from a surgical colleague telling me that he had signed up with the CRF CMAT. I immediately went to the Web site and registered as a potential volunteer. There were 400 applicants, including doctors, nurses and paramedics. The first team had been selected already. I was fortunate enough to be chosen to be part of the second team. Within a few days I found myself at Pearson International Airport and met my other seven team members: a GP/anesthetist, four nurses and two paramedics.

Twenty hours later, we were in Islamabad.

When we arrived in Pakistan, we went almost immediately to the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS). This was a tertiary-care trauma centre in Islamabad

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## Chughtai in Pakistan

that was coordinating the relief effort. We met with the director, who deployed us to where we were needed the most. The nurses and paramedics on the team were sent to the mountains of Muzaffarabad, where they set up wound-care clinics that tended to thousands of patients every week. My anesthetist colleague and I were told that we would be needed most at the Children's Hospital that was part of PIMS, so that is where we headed.

The scene outside the hospital was one of stretcher after stretcher of injured patients being brought in to PIMS. Inside the hospital, the hallways were overflowing with patients, as were the entrance way, the cafeteria and any other available space, because of the overwhelmed wards. Local doctors took us on a tour and we made rounds to see some of the patients who had been admitted. Some beds had two or three patients on them. Some patients were on the floor. So large was the number of cases that tents had been set up around the hospital for patients who could find no room inside. Lucky patients had someone next to them to support them, but many had no one. Our last stop was the operating theatre at the Children's Hospital where we would be working. Here the surgeons were performing over 100 operations daily. There was a fury of activity and it was obvious that it was a chaotic situation...essentially a factory with patient after patient arriving for treatment. The local doctors, as well as foreign MDs, were overwhelmed. Children were essentially lined up for treatment, awaiting the first available surgeon and anesthetist.

The most salient feature in this scene, however, was one that was to become etched in my mind and remains so to this day: the reverberating screaming and crying of children calling for their mothers. They did not know that most of them had no mother...or father, or brothers and sisters. These



A three-year-old girl with a head injury

children were the survivors from the mountains, the "lucky ones." This hysteria would begin at 7 a.m. and continue throughout the day until midnight. The operating theatre was set up so that all five operating rooms and the pre- and post-op areas were all in communication with each other. There was no escape from the cries of the children.

I was told to change into my surgical scrubs and meet the chief of surgery. He was busy operating in the one operating room where non-earthquake cases had been taken. After all, this was a major children's hospital where there was still a continuous stream of babies and children requiring surgery. I introduced myself and he asked a few questions about my training. He then indicated that if I was ready to begin, I should take a patient, bring him/her to an available operating theatre and begin performing surgery. My work week had begun.

The cases I was to be involved with over the next week included surgery of the chest and abdomen, as well as some neurosurgical cases. The majority, however, were orthopedic cases, including amputations and revisions of amputations, as well as repair of soft-tissue crush injuries. This underscores one of the skills needed to be able to help in a disaster situation: flexibility. My formal training is in surgery of the neck, chest and abdomen. Yet I spent my week doing orthopedic and plastic surgery. You are forced to adapt your skills and you learn quickly.

My first case involved a one-and-one-half-year-old boy, Talha, whose lower left leg had been crushed. His case was being managed by Dr. Valerie Mitish, a Russian surgeon who seemed

to be an "earthquake expert." He had also helped in the aftermath of the earthquakes in Iran and Turkey. I quickly realized that I should spend my first few hours with this

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*"The most salient feature in this scene was one that was to become etched in my mind and remains so to this day: the reverberating screaming and crying of children...."*

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*Continued on page 6*

## Chughtai in Pakistan

*Continued from page 5*

talented individual, and indeed after he helped me with this first case, I was already feeling ready to tackle some cases of my own. The rest of the week I performed brain surgery for brain herniation secondary to untreated head injuries, chest surgery for congenital abnormalities of the lung, abdominal surgery for injuries not recognized for two weeks after the earthquake, and numerous amputations and skin grafts. Many fractures could only be treated with long-term casting, as the resources were not available to fix every injury.

Because there was no recovery room in which to observe or monitor patients post-op, a very light anesthesia was used. During our stay, however, we did establish the practice of taking turns checking up on the patients post-op. No one was watching them. Another challenge was trying to calm the hysterical children before their operation, so that we could bring them into the operating theatre to put them to sleep. Sometimes this would involve placing a mask on them and holding them down until the anesthetic took effect.

Some other cases stuck in my mind during my stay. One such case was Tayeba, an eight-year-old girl with an amputation of the arm. After the operation she asked me "Uncle, did you put my arm back?" What can you say to a crying eight-year-old girl? Then there was Mehtab an eight-year-old boy on whom we performed an abdominal exploration and found a perforation of the intestine and massive infection. Other cases included six-month-old Robab, the cutest of babies, who had a depressed skull fracture; Tazir, a five-year-old boy with brain herniation; and Bostan, a two-year-old



Eight-year-old patient with her only remaining family, her six-year-old sister

boy with a degloving injury of the arm. Degloving was one of the newer injuries we were seeing, where soft tissue or an entire muscle group gets ripped off because of the way locals had pulled the patients out from underneath the rubble.

After an operation, any instructions for antibiotics or follow-up surgery were written on the dressing itself. Charts and paperwork were nonexistent. When finished with the case, we would wheel the patient out to a waiting area where a sea of people would be waiting. We would simply shout out "Who is the family of ...?"

When someone came forward, we would trust them, as there was no way of identifying them, and allow them to take the patient back to where he had been admitted to the hospital. Unfortunately, many times there was no response and so an orderly would have to accompany the patient alone. My last case of the week was an operation on an eight-year-old girl. When I asked for her family, there was a long pause. Finally, a six-year-old girl came from the crowd to say, in a shy voice, trying to be strong, "I am her family." We were speechless. When we questioned her, she confirmed that she was the only survivor of the family and that she would be taking care of her sister. A six-year-old girl. This was enough. My colleagues and I were could no longer hold back the tears that we had suppressed up to then.

When you go through a time like this, your colleagues become friends for life. An example is Dr. Mitish, the Russian surgeon who,

without speaking a word of English, ran the show at PIMS. Or Dr. Abbasi, the chief of surgery who knew every case going on in his unit and the name of every surgeon, local and foreign. Or Dr. Farid, a local orthopedic surgeon, who

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## Chughtai in Pakistan

came in at 7 a.m. and left at midnight, operating non-stop without speaking a word. Or my colleague Dr. Ali, who was a source of support during our stay. Or Dr. Nasir, who, like me, was a 30-something-year-old surgeon from abroad (in his case, London, England) who returned to his parents' homeland to help in the relief effort.

Also, I will never forget the people of Pakistan. I cannot imagine a people being more appreciative than the Pakistani people. Despite having gone through so much, and still going through so much, they had the energy and thoughtfulness to stop us on the street and thank us for coming to help. The local doctors, whom we were helping, were so genuinely grateful for us to come to PIMS. People in the street whom we did not even know would stop to hug us. This included even the stern-faced members of the antiterrorist squad we would have to pass daily to get into the hospital.

The people were not only generous to us but to each other as well. Children were seen helping other children everywhere. Many of our patients would come in with henna tattoos on their hands and bangles around the wrists. I later learned that these were put on by other children who would go around daily comforting the less fortunate. My own cousins who live in Islamabad would go nightly to the shelters where overflowing patients were housed, to donate food and clothing or comfort the ill and unfortunate. The newspapers carried articles daily with headlines such as "Volunteers a Godsend for Hospitals" (*Dawn* newspaper November 2005).

Eventually, the children manage to smile somehow. But don't let the smile deceive you. They are still struggling. Many have no homes. Many live in shelters made of clothes



Talat Chughtai (right) with Dr. Mitish

or, if they are lucky, in a real tent. There are many tent villages all over the countryside in that area. Children can be seen cooking outside. But what do they cook? Scenes of masses of people hysterically grasping for small packets of food being thrown from a relief truck or helicopter are the norm.

Life goes on. Merchants were still selling goods amongst the rubble. People were still trying to celebrate the festivities of Eid, which occurred in the midst of this chaos. Their faces seemed less than festive. These people went from having very little to having nothing. Pakistan is a Third-World country and Kashmir is a war-torn area at the best of times. The last thing these people needed was a disaster of this magnitude.

The world is helping, but it may not be enough. The main problem now is the winter. There are three million people homeless, and those who do have homes are living in tents not made for the difficult winter that is now upon them. Scenes of children freezing to death with no socks and shoes are now beginning to appear in the news. One local reporter claimed "All we need are \$10 corrugated metal sheets and some clothes and blankets and the people's chances of survival will increase dramatically." So, for those who are hesitating about donating because they are uncertain of its usefulness at this point in the disaster relief, remember the \$10 metal sheets, the clothes, and the packets of food. These people deserve no less than the rest of us who are fortunate enough to have these things (and more) and take them for granted.

Talat S. Chughtai,  
MD, FRCSC  
Toronto

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*"The last thing these people needed was a disaster of this magnitude. The world is helping, but it may not be enough."*

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# Hreno wins screenwriting award

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Jason Hreno '86 joined a select group of the best screenwriters in Canada when he was honoured at the 10th anniversary Canadian Screenwriting Awards, hosted by the Writers Guild of Canada in Toronto on April 24. Jason received the Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize for best unproduced miniseries/movie script.

Other winners included Brent Butt and Paul Mather (Corner Gas), Susin Nielsen (Robson Arms) and Mark McKinney (Kids in the Hall). Canadian actor and screenwriter Gordon Pinsent was one of the presenters, and the flamboyant Scott Thompson, also from Kids in the Hall, was MC for the awards ceremony. "It was, by far, the most rollicking Canadian Screenwriters' awards ceremony they've ever had," says Jason.

The WGC is the national association representing more than 1,800 screenwriters working in English-language film, including television, radio, and new media. The Canadian Screenwriting Awards are judged solely on the merits of the script—not the produced television/radio programme or film.

Jason describes his award-winning script, entitled "Two Mountains," which beat out 300 contenders, as "a coming-of-age character drama" about a lower-middle class family in mid-80s Montreal. "It's a work of fiction," he explains. "It isn't autobiographical at all, but I think it has pretty universal themes and really fresh characters."

Jason actually makes his living as a TV director. After graduating from Selwyn House in '86 and John Abbot College in '88, he received his Honours BA in English literature from McGill in 1992, where he was introduced to film making. He continued his studies outside Canada, earning a teaching certificate from Cambridge in '92 and studying television writing at UCLA.

After teaching in Spain for a couple of years, he went to London, where he started working on TV commercials and made a short "calling card" film entitled "Wandering Eyes." Returning to Canada after seven years abroad, he worked for a few years in Montreal making TV movies for U.S. broadcasters before moving to his present home base in Toronto last November. He also spends a lot of time in Los Angeles, and says he hopes to move there soon.

So far, he has written half a dozen screenplays. "A lot of guys out there have written tons of screenplays and one finally hit," he says. "It's hard to keep believing in something when it seems no one else does. That's one of the reasons I'm so grateful to the Guild and the jury for this award."

Since his days at Selwyn House, Jason's ambition was to



Jason at the SHS Toronto Reunion

be a writer. "Pretentiously enough, I thought I wanted to be a novelist," he says. "Screenwriting came up later."

"It was a solid background that Selwyn House gave me from a very early age," he says. "The SHS English programme gave me a pretty traditional classical background, which was mostly novels and pre-20th-century drama."

"I was there from Grade 1, and grammar and *Words Are Important* were foundational in shaping my interests, which I have been lucky enough to find some application for—and some gainful employment with—in the rather barren cultural landscape of Canada."

Jason found he had to go abroad to pursue his muse with any degree of success. "At the time I graduated from McGill it was in a particularly unfavourable climate for anybody in the creative fields," he recalls. "The city was in a tailspin and the country was crippled by recession. So I went abroad for seven years and was fortunate to learn a lot there."

"You need to be in a community of people," he says. "You can't work in a vacuum. Fortunately, since I've moved to Toronto—and being in L.A. so much—I've started to find that community again. It's sad to say, but there really isn't that much of a community left in Montreal. For me, anyway."

"It's a tough slog," he continues. "Nobody cares about where you're from or where you went to school. And why should they? The film industry is truly democratic in a lot of ways. You have to earn your props, and it takes a long time to build a community of peers who respect you."

"Even if you're the best writer in the world and you've written a masterpiece novel, you're not going to win the Booker Prize unless you know a publisher."

"But I don't claim to have it figured out. I'm just one practitioner trying to make a living. Things can change on a dime. The wind shifts and you're out. The business is controlled by people who I'm convinced may be functioning bipolar, and it's ruled by a very fickle marketplace. It's complete insanity, to be honest."

The promise of seeing "Two Mountains" put into production still looms in the future, and Jason hopes the award will help. "Even if it never gets produced, a very wide jury of my peers recognized its internal merits, so I will never feel completely undermined when someone passes on my work, because that accolade's always there," he says. "They can't take that away from me."

For more on Jason Hreno's career highlights, visit <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0398590/>



# Afghanistan: The Hope of a Nation

By Greg Raikes '99

It's been roughly two years since I first arrived in this country, and I would be lying if I said it's been nothing but an endless series of remarkable discoveries interspersed with copious bowls of rice, mutton and tea made from a sketchy water source.

Of course, that's been part of it. I remember flying into Kabul on my first day in March 2004, turning to the slightly portly woman sitting beside me, and asking for her impression of Kabul. I was expecting her to blather on about the mystifying Afghan culture, the unflinching generosity of its people, their thirst for revenge, the occasionally duplicitous nature of their characters or their capacity to endure brutal conditions without ever losing their sense of pride or dignity. "Dirty" was her response. It didn't take long for me to realize that, not only was she right, but there is an endless supply of one-word responses that might describe this country. "Fascinating," "impoverished," "stunning" and "frightening" are a few others that certainly apply.

I initially came here to work for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), where I got a rapid introduction to the difficulties of bringing development aid to one of the poorest countries in the world. Infrastructure was virtually non-existent, corruption was rife, the central government was almost entirely reliant on the donor community for resources, it was one of the world's largest heroin suppliers and anti-government activities were growing in many parts of the country. Sporadic rocket attacks on Kabul added to the air of unease, particularly given the fact that the rockets are often launched from the side of a wheelbarrow or a tree stump, making their accuracy fairly erratic. A rocket aimed at a military base could easily land in a primary school or in the kitchen of a family sitting down to celebrate the end of Ramadan.

Upon completion of my UNDP contract I moved to UNAMA (UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan), where I have been working as a political-affairs officer. I was immediately deployed to one of the most isolated parts of the country, Dai Kundi Province. It would be the ideal setting for SHS to start a geology summer camp, given the unbelievably diverse rock formations that encompass the region. Our primary task in Dai Kundi was assisting in the vetting process for parliamentary election candidates. A regular day would consist of a revolving door of individuals



Greg Raikes with friends in Afghanistan

claiming that a candidate had murdered a family member, appropriated their land or stolen their cattle, wives or both. In many cases the people simply appreciated the novelty of actually having someone listen to their grievances.

Post election, I moved to Bamyán Province, where in 2001 the Taliban famously destroyed the ancient Buddha statues. It is only when you arrive here that you can truly grasp the despicability of that act. The

Taliban have a special hatred for this region, as it is ethnically majority Hazara. The Pashtun Taliban despise the Hazara for, among other things, their religious tolerance and support for the central government. Our current focus is the Disarmament of Illegal Armed Groups (DIAG). Unsurprisingly, many Afghans have a strong attachment to weapons, so getting them to participate in the programme has, so far, been almost as successful as I was in Grade 10 math. Let's just say, not very. The success of the programme is critical to the future stability of the country, however, as tens of thousands of weapons remain in the grip of ex-commanders and warlords who are reluctant to willfully hand over the authority their arsenals provide. To date, over 22,000 weapons have been collected countrywide under this programme, but it is a mere fraction of the overall total. Unknown amounts remain buried in caves, under houses, or for sale on the black market. The current resurgence of the Taliban is only compounding the problem, as people are making contingency plans in the event that the central government collapses.

Two years on, the country still battles many of the same issues that have plagued it since my arrival. Sadly, some of those issues have gotten worse. Nevertheless, I remain hopeful that the resilience imbedded in the Afghan psyche will eventually overcome those who seek to reverse the significant progress that has been made here. Two successful elections have taken place, schools, clinics, roads and bridges have been built across the country, and women are slowly starting to take their rightful place in society. Clearly, many more nightmares await those dreaming of a time when this country is able to fulfill its vast potential. I may not be around to see the ultimate realization of that potential, but having the opportunity to experience the hope of a nation is certainly something I will not soon forget.



# Toasty tents could save lives

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Jordan Benjamin 2004 and his science project partner at Marianopolis, Signe Richer, won several prizes and a gold medal at the Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair in March for their project, "Toasty Tents."

The two CEGEP students won the Concordia University Award for Outstanding Achievement in Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering, which has a value of \$250, as well as a scholarship from McGill University's Department of Mining, Metals, and Materials Engineering.

Jordan and Signe designed and built a model of a tent that was solar heated. Their idea was that a heated tent could be a life-saver in times of disaster relief.

"Months after Pakistan's October 8 earthquake, it is still common to hear and read about the devastation," said Jordan and Signe in their project report. "Millions have been left homeless and have been fighting against a cold winter for survival. Faced with no other alternative, families have taken to building fires in their relief tents for warmth, causing further injury and death.

"The goal of this project was to build a tent that would provide warmth and security. To accommodate all situations, we turned to the most abundant and ever-present resource—the sun. It allowed the project to be cost-efficient and environmentally conscious."

The two students conducted fundamental research into the principles of light and heat, basing their design on solar ovens that concentrate the rays of the sun to cook food at over 200C. From here, models were built that combined the sun-capturing techniques of a solar oven and the heat-storing concept of a greenhouse. This resulted in a better understanding, and allowed the project to expand in scope and scale.

"The next step was to moderate this energy, storing it during the day and then releasing it overnight," said Jordan and Signe. "This concept is known as a 'solar sink.'" Various materials were tested for use as a solar sink, with a container



Jordan Benjamin and his partner, Signe Richer, with their prototype

of water being chosen as the most practical.

Results showed that after less than three hours of concentrating sunrays on a water sink, the temperature rose significantly, showing that the project's basic concept was sound.

A winter tent manufacturer was consulted for details on design and materials required for constructing a warm and secure winter tent.

"The theories involved in constructing a solar-heated tent overlap into many different areas," said Jordan and Signe. "Techniques and principles used in the fields of mathematics, physics and chemistry were all employed.

"Rules of geometry were applied to ensure all the pieces of the tent came together. Being able to calculate angles, lengths, and volumes was invaluable. Without it, none of the other principles could be applied. The next challenges were solved by applying laws of thermodynamics, calorimetry, and astrophysics.

"The most challenging part was putting theory and concepts into practice," said Jordan and Signe. "Appropriate materials (closed-cell foam, tarpaulin, emergency blankets, polytarp) were collected based on previous tests, availability, and cost. Once the plans were drawn, many hours were spent constructing the final product. This involved first sewing together six separate layers to build each piece, and then sewing the pieces together. More efficient techniques were learned and employed as the process developed."

Original models were tested with encouraging results. In a two-hour period around noon, while the outdoor temperature dropped from 4 degrees to 2, the temperature of the 100-ml water container inside the tent rose from 15 degrees to 31.

"More lives do not have to be jeopardized after countless have already been lost," said Jordan and Signe. "The project showed that there are other solutions to the crisis of temporary housing in cold climates."

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*"More lives do not  
have to be jeopardized  
after countless have  
already been lost."*

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# Young Old Boy takes on City Hall

By Bryce Durafour 2004

When a person turns 18, one of the privileges that becomes available to him is the right to vote. On November 6th, 2005, I had the unusual experience of not only voting for the first time, but of seeing my own name on the ballot! Running in the election was a great idea that started back in my days at Selwyn House. In the winter of 2004, I initially applied to reserve a name for a new municipal political party as a result of a link I came across for a French class assignment. Although I did not end up getting my party authorized, I did get some publicity when a *Gazette* journalist wrote a story about our party. After the article was published, I got a lot of encouragement from people who thought it was great that I was getting involved. This led me to run as an independent candidate for the position of Montreal city councillor in my district of Saint-Laurent.

My campaign machine was not quite as large as Tremblay's or Bourque's, but I did do some campaigning. My friends and I called people aged 18-25 and urged them to vote. I also made posters, which I put up around Saint-Laurent, and flyers, which I distributed to about 1,500 homes. Among those who helped me were fellow SHS alumni Valter Pinchiaroli, Alexis Youssef, and Justin



Bryce Durafour 2004

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*"It was encouraging to see so many citizens happy to see a young person in politics."*

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Tan. It was a fair amount of work, but it was encouraging to see so many citizens happy to see a young person in politics. Of course, since I still had to go to school every day and do my homework, I only met or talked to a very small percentage of electors. Also, in comparison to the millions of dollars spent by the two main parties, I spent only about \$175—the cost of printing my posters and flyers. In the end, I received just over two per cent of the vote. Although that was far from the majority that the winner received, for a political newcomer, I was very pleased with my result.

This summer, before I start at McGill in September, I'll be teaching sailing and working on having my party, New Era Montreal, authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer of Quebec. I have almost collected the 100 signatures required, and so I should have the authorization soon. At that point I will be able to start collecting contributions for the party. Then, over the next few years, I will try to line up people to run for city and borough councillors across the city, in order to increase awareness about New Era Montreal. I look forward to running again in 2009!

For info, comments, or suggestions, email NEMontreal@gmail.com

## Alumni & Friends E-mail Directory

For SHS Old Boys, Current and Former Staff, Current and Alumni Parents

Visit the school's home page and register on the Alumni and Friends E-mail Directory.

Go to the Web site ([www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca)) and choose the Alumni section from the menu bar. Scroll down to the E-mail Directory button to register and you will join 1000 others who have done the same. It's a great tool that allows Selwyn House constituents around the world to keep in touch with the school and with one another.

### Class Notes

As you browse the E-mail Directory you'll find this section

where one can post notes on a message board to fellow classmates. Planning a get-together or have some good news to share? Post your notice here.

### Chapter and Occupation Fields

Help us to streamline our e-mailings. Please update your profile and be sure to include your geographical region (chapter) and your occupation. And, why not update your biography while you're at it?



# Old Boy on a telemark mission

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

**I**t's a long climb to the top, but Fabio Moscatelli '92 is determined to see his favourite sport included in the 2014 Winter Olympics. Fabio's love for telemark skiing, and his campaign to bring the sport to world prominence, have become the dominant interests in his life, he says.

Fabio started skiing competitively nine years ago at Mont Tremblant, beginning with alpine, then moving on to cross-country. In a search for something different, he discovered telemark skiing. After having skied in alpine style, he was attracted to the more muscle-based technique of telemarking and the fact that it includes elements of both alpine and cross-country styles.

The sport was invented in the Telemark region of Norway in the late 1800s. After falling out of favour for years, it enjoyed a resurgence in popularity in the 1960s, a trend that exploded with the development of modern free-

heel boots in the 1980s. Telemark skiing is more common in BC than Quebec, Fabio says, largely because of different snow conditions. Still, the sport has never achieved a North American popularity comparable to what it enjoys in France, Italy and Scandinavia.

This is something Fabio pledged to rectify when he gave up competition for his true love and, in 2003, took over the presidency of Telemark Skiing Canada.

Fabio will soon be eligible to receive his technical delegate papers from the Fédération Internationale de Ski, the international body that governs all winter sports. This will qualify him to organize international competitions.

"Telemarking is one of the few types of skiing that is growing at a steady rate," Fabio says. But enthusiasts feel it is not growing fast enough. "We're trying to make more people aware of the sport," he says.

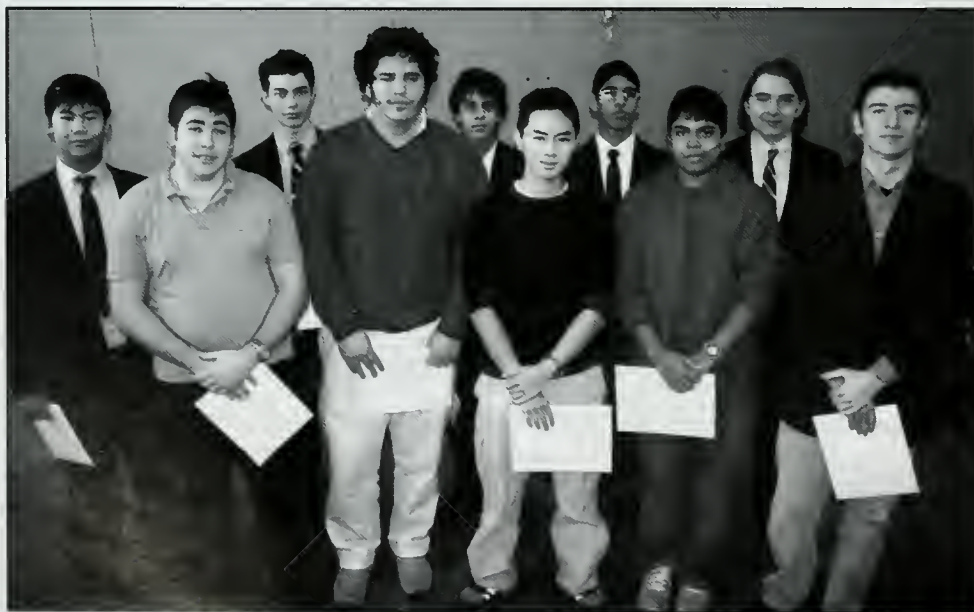
"Telemarking is a sport that is on its way to becoming an

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*"Telemarking is a sport that is on its way to becoming an Olympic discipline."*

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## Thirteen named to Cum Laude Society



The above Old Boys and Grade 11 students were named to the Cum Laude Society during Founder's Day celebrations 2005. They are, from left: Brian Lin, Jason Coviensky, James Duffy, Brendan Munzar, Lawrence Said, Jonathan Shen, Rohan Rakheja, Rabib Chaudhry, Robert Hinrichsen and Ben Wilner. Teachers Irene Lunt, Tom Downey and Sylvain Decelles were also named to the Society during the Founder's Day ceremonies.

Olympic discipline," Fabio predicts. As a resident of Whistler, he would be delighted to see the sport included in the 2010 Olympics in his home town. But, realistically, he and his fellow enthusiasts are aiming at 2014. In the meantime, telemark supporters intend to have a presence at Whistler, even if their sport is not on the schedule.

It's all part of what Fabio describes as "a broad-based media attack" to get the message out to corporations as well as athletes. With no corporate support, a "new" sport will never achieve widespread popularity, but corporations are reluctant to get involved unless they perceive a public interest. Fabio is convinced he and his fellow enthusiasts can generate that interest.

"We'll be there in two years," Fabio says. "It's an amazing spectator sport, and we're close to meeting the Sport Canada criteria."



# Old Boys gather for August Barbecue

By Bryce Durafourt 2004



Chatting 'round the table, clockwise from left: Taylor Dixon 2002, Matthew Tabah 2002, Nathan Vexler 2002, Tim Rossy 2002, Nino Zammit 2002, Nick Niro 2002, Chris Chackal 2002, Jeffy Chui 2002, Anish Patel 2002 and Fil Papich, '77 OBA President.

This year's annual Old Boys' Barbeque, which took place on August 23, was a success. It was a chance for the grads of 2000-2004 to get together and catch up over some delicious burgers and a few beers.

We met in the Speirs courtyard and although the weather was overcast, the rain held off for the most part. All of the CEGEP students did have school the next day, and envied Morse and the others who only returned to the States the next week.

The event mainly entailed listening to adventure stories from the summer, notably the stories of Brun and Benjamin's backpacking trip across Europe. It sounded like it was a great trip!

Some of our former teachers also were present to check up on their old students. After dinner we listened to a few words from Mr. Mitchell, who introduced us to Fil Papich, a 1977 graduate who is the current president of the Old Boys' Association. Mr. Papich gave us a small speech outlining the purpose and function of the OBA. He drew a few laughs when he stated that he was sure we were all too young to make donations yet, but that in a few years it would be our duty!

Afterwards, we went inside to have a tour of the newly renovated Lucas Building. Everyone was most impressed with the changes. At the end of the evening we all went home, stuffed with good food and fond memories. A great evening was had by all.

## Attendees

Ben Albright 2004  
Mike Avedesian '88, OBA Director  
Chris Brun 2004  
Jordan Benjamin 2004  
Chris Chackal 2002  
Jeffy Chui 2002  
Paul Delplace 2004  
Pierre Deschamps 2004  
Taylor Dixon 2002  
Bryce Durafourt 2004  
Adrian Gaty 2001  
Zaven Gunjian 2000  
Arne Hantson 2003  
Dave How 2000  
Tom Kirk 2004  
Maks Knecht 2002  
Michael Lazar 2004  
Lindsay MacLean 2002  
Sasha Mandy 2000  
Ben Meadow 2004  
Thomas Morse 2004  
Chris Nacos 2001  
Nick Niro 2002  
Anish Patel 2002  
Chris Potter 2002  
Fil Papich, '77 OBA President  
Nick Powell '79, OBA Director  
Luke Reid 2001  
Andrew Reid-Workman 2004  
Matthew Riggs 2000  
Chris Rochon 2002  
Alan Rossy '79, OBA Director  
Tim Rossy 2002  
Nicholas Shadeed 2004  
Andrew Sniderman 2001  
Matthew Tabah 2002  
Geoffrey Vendeville 2004  
Nathan Vexler 2002  
Alexi Youssef 2004  
Nino Zammit 2002  
**Staff**  
Sharon Cozens  
Steve Durant  
Will Mitchell  
Scott Morrison  
Courtney Prieur  
David Teebenny  
Rob Wearing  
Johanne Werbiski

# 111 attend 27th Old Boys' Reunion

By Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations

The doors opened and in they came, Old Boys from far and wide to celebrate and get reacquainted with former classmates and with Selwyn House. Student ambassadors, prefects and volunteers were at the ready on September 30, 2005 to receive some 111 Old Boys and guests, handing out name tags, touring them around a very new looking school, and directing them to the cocktail zone prior to the official dinner.

The 27th Annual Reunion honoured all those classes with years ending in the number 0 or 5. Special recognition was given to classes celebrating 10, 25 and 50 years. This year, however, Dennis Reilly and his Class of '55 opted to celebrate their 50th anniversary next year, in order to get higher attendance. Ben Spencer was able to get a very good turnout for the Class of 2000's five-year anniversary. This bodes well for future reunions!

Thanks to class organizers Rob Fagnoli, Francesco San Gregorio and others, there was a great showing (19 in all) for the Class of '95 for their 10-year reunion as there was for the Class of '80 with the help of Jonathan Herman, David Miller and Ted Nash for the big 25-year event (25 Old Boys for 25 years)!

Fil Papich, President of the Old Boys' Association, welcomed everyone to the 27th Annual Old Boys' Dinner and Annual General Meeting and served as the evening's master of ceremonies. He welcomed guests who had traveled from afar including Robert Diez d'Aux '64 from Tennessee, Class of '80 members Brian Dawson from North Dakota, Stephen Kohner from Baie Comeau, Eugene Kovalik from North Carolina, Clive and Jacqueline Spiegel from New York, John Trott from Illinois, Vlad Zeman from Connecticut, and Jon Zyto from Calgary. Eric Goldwarg '95 drove up from Vermont, Alex Lemieux 2000 from Maine, and Hugo Blomfield '95 and former staff member David Williams came in from BC.

The business of the AGM was then underway with Fil thanking retiring directors for their three years of service on the board: Derek Kredl '85, Patrick McEntyre '92 and Jason Tsadilas '88.

Ben Spencer 2000, (representing the more recent graduates of Selwyn House) read aloud the proposed slate of directors: Filip Papich, '77 (president), Paul Mayer '74 (vice-president), Vince Guzzo '86 (secretary), Michael Avedesian '88, Raymond Ayas '95, William Black '86, Thomas Konigsthal '74, Hagen Mehnert '84, Nicholas Powell '79, Michael Osterland '78, Alan Rossy '79, and



Selwyn House Senior math teacher Andy Lumsden (left) chats with Eugene Kovalick, of the Class of 1980.

David Skinner '82. The chapter representatives were also noted: Boston Rep. George Sopel '86, New York Rep. Michael Henderson '90, and Toronto Rep. Sean Sofin '84. All voted in favour and the business portion of the evening was over.

Kenneth Matson '52 of Ottawa toasted the school, Barry Williams said grace and everyone then enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner.

Will Cobbett '95 and Jonathan Herman '80 each gave a great synopsis of life at Selwyn House 10 and 25 years ago, respectively, as they regaled the audience with stories of classmates and past teachers. It was clear that these excellent speakers were given superb training in



Jim Evans '54 peruses an old Selwyn House yearbook.



## Old Boys' Reunion 2005

their schooling.

Thank you to all Old Boys who made the effort to attend. From all accounts, it was well worth the trip!

For more photos, visit [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca). Look for *Veritas* and use the "safenews" password

Top, the Class of 1980.

Back row, from left:

Charles Mappin, David Williams, Brian Dawson, Ted Nash, Stephen Kohner, Jon Herman, Ali Argun.

Middle row: David Miller, John Mulholland, John Trott, Duncan Baird, Stephen Hall, Clive Spiegel, Jon Zyto, Eugene Kovalik, Damon Kuttan.

Kneeling: Robert Young, Ralph Beveridge, JP Guy, Joshua Albert, Glenn Fong, David Daly, Vlad Zeman.



Middle, the Class of 1995.

Back row, from left: Dave Novak, Alex Grassino, Thomas Lin, Richard Calvé, Jon Stern, Hafeez Lalani.

Middle row: Laurence Isaac, Karl Herba, Kyle Pilot, Paul Dery-Goldberg, Will Cobbett, Hugo Blomfield, and John MacDonald.

Front row: Eric Goldwarg, Saad Shaikh, Rick Mezey, Rob Fagnoli, Franco San Gregorio and Mike Nessim.



Bottom, the Class of 2000,

from left: Alex Lemieux, Ben Spencer, Tom Nicoll (faculty), Rod Lieder, Matt Munzar, Trevor Parekh and Conrad Harrington.





# Old-timers prevail in Colin No Classic

By Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations

The second annual Colin No Classic, on January 25, 2006, was a good night of fun as Old Boys—young and not so young—tore up the court, made some surprising moves and enjoyed a round-robin tournament in fond memory of a fellow student, Colin No '97.

It was great to have some new, young players involved this year, to keep the game fresh. But, in the end, it was the team made up of senior players that was victorious. They were: Fil Papich '77, Masaud Kakkar '93, Bryan Guinness '93, Maurice Gibbs '90, and teacher Colin Boyle.

Fil Papich, by virtue of being the eldest Old Boy present, was named tournament MVP, quite an amazing accomplishment, given that he played without aid of his puffer.

Colin No passed away in 2002, and this annual event helps his classmates and others to keep his memory alive. The endowment scholarship in his name also does this, and currently stands at \$2,553.00.



The champions. From left: timekeeper Marty Boyle, Fil Papich, Masaud Kakkar, Bryan Guinness, Maurice Gibbs, Colin Boyle and timekeeper Alf Paoletti



Thompson Choi 2000 (left) and Jon-Ian Lui 2001

## Attendees Colin No Classic

### Players:

Fil Papich '77  
Maurice Gibbs '90  
Bryan Guinness '93  
Masaud Kakkar '93  
Ajay Narasimhadevera '97  
Toby No '97  
Ian Marquis '97  
Richard Martz '97  
Ziad Kaedbey '97  
Thompson Choi 2000  
Christopher Robinson 2000  
Jon-Ian Lui 2001  
Eric Martz 2002  
Miguel Burnier 2003  
Michael Grover 2003  
Dimitri Manousos 2003

Abibou Ngom 2003  
Luca Pavlovic 2003  
Nicholas Tsoukas 2003  
Sean Brophy 2004  
Andrew Reid-Workman 2004  
Lee Rovinescu 2004  
Paul Tsoukas 2004  
Colin Boyle Staff

### Staff:

Alfie Paoletti  
Marty Boyle  
Sharon Cozens  
Jaime McMillan  
Rob Wearing  
Will Mitchell

## Ottawa warms for February reunion

By Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations

When booking the Quebec Room of the Westin Hotel for the Old Boys' Ottawa Reunion, we envisioned a room of happy guests, delicious cocktail food and a view of the Rideau Canal skaters in the background. All but the backdrop materialized on this February 1 day, as the temperatures were well above freezing. Will Mitchell, Jaime McMillan and I were happy to meet fourteen guests (Old Boys, past parents and one former staff member, for good measure) and enjoy good conversation and cocktails. Those present enjoyed the chance to meet fellow Ottawans as well as hear of the latest news of Selwyn

House. What a great group to get to know!

Many thanks to those who joined us. We hope that those who could not attend (those Old Boys involved with that winter election and the snowbirds who had already fled for the winter) will be available for a November reunion this fall. Who knows, there may be skaters on the canal then!

### Ottawa Attendees

John Udd '52; Tony LeMoine '53 and Pamela; Ivan Ralston '61; Bill Turner '73; Tiff Macklem '78; Peter Stewart '81; Maurice Gibbs '90; Mark McCans '96; Mark Spielman '96; Sean McKinnon '98; Ian and Elizabeth Leslie, past parents; Brenda Papp, former staff; Will Mitchell, Headmaster; James McMillan, Director of Advancement; Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations



From left: Brenda Papp, Mark Spielman, Sean McKinnon, Ivan Ralston

## Old Boys reunite overlooking Times Square

By Michael Henderson '90, NYC Chapter Rep.

I thought I would write to all those faithful *Veritas* readers about the Selwyn House New York City Alumni Reunion, which was hosted in the beautiful offices of the Reuters Building, in the heart of Times Square (thanks to Fil Papich '77) on February 28, 2006. The event was organized in conjunction with Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School, and there was excellent attendance by Old Boys and Old Girls alike.

Guests were treated to a stellar performance by the SHS Jazz ensemble (led by Jaime McMillan) and the ECS choir (led by Janice Ewanyshyn). The two ensembles performed together under the name Jazz Storm, playing standards and newer numbers with equal ease, and demonstrating to everyone that there was some serious talent in the room.

With views of the skyline of New York, I cannot think of a better place to have sipped a couple beers while

catching up with friends and familiar faces. It was really nice to run into people I had not seen since a memorable SHS graduation party. While I am sure we all look a little older—with slightly recessed hairlines, a few more lines on the face, and baby pictures in the back pocket—it was good to see that not much had changed. I would recommend that everyone try to make it to the next SHS reunion in your respective city.

After a brief few words from Emma Colby (ECS '91) and me, SHS Headmaster Will Mitchell and retiring ECS Head Susyn Borer spoke about the various projects and endeavours that each school has underway. Mr. Mitchell announced our school's newest (and, in my opinion, most important) long-term project, the SHS Centennial Endowment Fund, which will be launched in conjunction with the school's 100th anniversary in 2008. Not only is

*Continued on next page*



## New York Reunion, continued

*Continued from previous page*

2008 fast approaching, but a healthy endowment is crucial to the long-term viability and success of any private institution. We are far behind. I did a quick Google search and in 2003, Exeter Academy's endowment was \$558 million! I was surprised when I heard that SHS currently has only \$3 million in endowment. I had always assumed there was more. This should be something we all work on together to support the school's longevity and success.

However, I digress. The night was not about fundraising or anything of the sort. It was more about bringing old friends and acquaintances back together. It was about strengthening the SHS community. There are a lot of us in NYC, and most don't realize this. It is a network that we should all work to improve for the school's sake and for the sake of our own careers (I welcome any student or grad to call me and ask questions about getting into the financial industry in New York ). I hope to see all of you who live here in the Big Apple at the next event, and I look forward to hearing from you if you would like to be included on any of

the e-mails I will be sending out about upcoming events. (michael.henderson@bernstein.com)

For more photos, visit [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca).

For a list of attendees, see following page.



From left: Headmaster Will Mitchell, Gabriel Taraboulsy '98 and Camilo Durana '98

## Boston Reunion with jazz accompaniment

By James McMillan, Director of Advancement



From left: Jamin Kerner, Headmaster Will Mitchell, Morgan Lackenbauer and Robbie Campbell

The Jazz Tour continued from Times Square, New York on to the Boston Children's Museum on March 2 where once again, the SHS Jazz Band and ECS Choir entertained the Old Boys and the ECS Old Girls at the Boston Chapter reunion. A very interested group of alumni enjoyed the music and the evening. Thanks to all of you for coming!

### Boston Attendees

Chris Noble '72; George Maris '76 and Kelly Pagidas Maris; George Sopel '86, Boston Chapter Rep. and Sarah Gagan Sopel with children Alexandra and Madeleine; Jamin Kerner '94; Stuart Weigensberg '94; Morgan Lackenbauer '97; Robbie Campbell 2002. Staff: William Mitchell, Headmaster; James McMillan, Director of Advancement; Marie Forté, Elementary music teacher



## New York Attendees

Old Boys and guests: Jody Allison '66; Alexander Kippen '77; Fil Papich '77, President, Old Boys' Association; Robert Lande '79; Joshua Gradinger '87 and guest; Justin Sanft '87; Farhan Memon '88; Patrick Birks '89; Gregory Speirs '89; Paul Starke '90 and Melissa Rosenfield; James Deitcher '98; Camilo Durana '98; Michael Henderson '90, NYC Chapter Rep.; Ivan

Phillips '50; Jonathan Skoda '91; Christopher Teryazos '94; Marc Schaffer '94; Adam Blanshay '98 and Claire Thompson; Christopher Sakara '98; Gabriel Taraboulsy '98; Adam Rozencwajg 2001; Andrew Webster '82. Staff: Marie Forté, Elementary music teacher; James McMillan, Director of Advancement and Director of Music; Will Mitchell, Headmaster

# Toronto Old Boys get the *Star* treatment

By Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations

Judging by the growing number of attendees over the years, it seems that the Toronto contingent of Old Boys is really getting used to our annual spring get-togethers at *The Toronto Star*. Our thanks to *Star* Publisher Michael Goldbloom '69, for hosting our group, which numbered forty-four this year, on April 27, 2006.

It's great to know that we can count on seeing "the regulars" each year, such as Ed Ballon '39, Lee Watchorn '59 and others, but it is also wonderful to meet first-time attendees like Jason Hreno '86, Michael Nessim '95 and

former staffers the Lewises. An annual event like this is really good for Torontonians as well as for the school, as it gives a chance for face-to-face communication.

For those of you who have yet to attend, it's worth the trip! Special thanks go to Chapter Rep. Sean Sofin '84, to Bruce Williams '77, who organized a post-cocktail gathering at a local pub, and OBA President Fil Papich, who made the trip from Montreal to meet all those from this growing Toronto Chapter.



Most junior Old Boy and most senior:  
Chris Rochon 2002 (left) with Ed Ballon '39

## Toronto Attendees

Ed Ballon '39; Tim Peters '52; Lee Watchorn '59; Chris Moseley '68; Michael Goldbloom '69; Norman Tobias '70; Denny Creighton '72; Chris Roper '72; Donnie Shannon '72; Saxe Brickenden '74; Derek Frost '75; Julian Heller '75; Andrew Dalglish '77 and Kathleen Dalglish; Robert Levy '77; Fil Papich '77, President, Old Boys' Association; Bruce Williams '77 and Beatrijs Williams; Michael Whitehead '78; Richard Graham '79; David Shannon '79; Ted Nash '80; David Williams '80; Tom Antony '83; Jonathan Kay '85; Christopher Naudie '85; Jake Richler '85; Jason Hreno '86; Charles Tingley '91; Marcus Daniels '94; Michael Nessim '95; Matt Busbridge '99; Peter Szilagyi '99; Michael Gross 2000; Chris Rochon 2002; Ian Burgess, Former Staff; Martha Lewis, Former Staff; Martin Lewis, Former Staff; Barry Stevens, Former Staff; James Stewart, Former Staff; Alexis Troubetzkoy, Former Headmaster; Will Mitchell, Headmaster; Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations; and James McMillan, Director of Advancement

# Scholarships complete the cycle at SHS

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

**F**our Grade 6 students at Selwyn House School have taken an important step in their education by winning the school's Grade 7 Academic Merit Scholarships, which were presented on March 2.

Jake Levy recorded the highest score on exams in February to win the Old Boys' Association Academic Merit Scholarship, worth \$2,500 per year for five years. This completes a cycle in Selwyn House family history because Jake's father, Michael, a 1975 graduate, made his decision to attend Selwyn House after winning one of the school's Academic Merit Scholarships in 1970.

By placing second on the February exams, Sean Hatzigeorgiou won the Aditya Pathak Merit Scholarship, worth \$1,000 per year for five years. The scholarship is given in the memory of a Grade 9 student who died in a tragic accident in 2003. At the time of his death, Aditya Pathak was described by Headmaster Will Mitchell as, "An excellent student, admired by both his teachers and classmates for his work ethic and intelligence."

"As a citizen of our community," Mr. Mitchell said. "Addy was the epitome of what we expect from a fully engaged and positive contributor to school life."

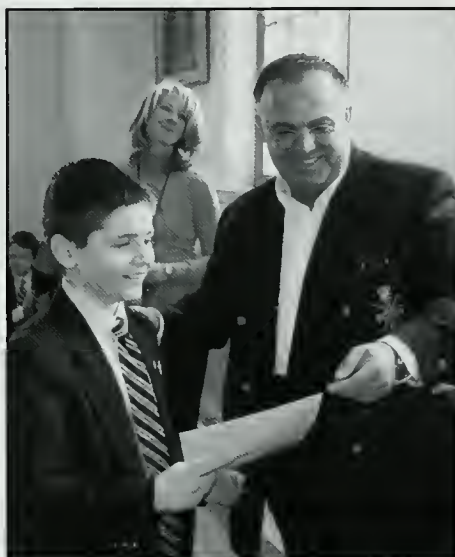
Eric Liu and Jonathan Kwok placed third and fourth, respectively, in the February exams, each winning a Selwyn House School Grade 7 Academic Merit Scholarship worth \$1,000 per year for five years.

Twenty-one Selwyn House Grade 6 students took the exam, which included a French, English and math component. The top four winners were chosen based on an average of their scores in the three sections.

Vince Guzzo '86, secretary of the Old Boys' Association, was on hand on March 2 to present the Old Boys' Association scholarship to Jake Levy. He explained to the Grade 6 students at the awards assembly the function of the OBA and how important it is to the school.

"In a few years you will all be members of the Old Boys' Association," he told the boys. "An Old Boy maintains a link to the school, and gives back to it in a financial or professional way."

Michael Levy says his son is a hard-working boy whose interests are more than just academic, as his second-level



Jake Levy receives the Old Boys' Association Merit Scholarship from OBA secretary Vince Guzzo '86. Looking on is Admission Director Sylvie Bastien-Doss.

black belt in karate will attest. "He loves his school," said Michael. "It nurtures him, and we're glad he's here. It's the right school for him."

Jake says his whole family was "surprised and excited" when they heard he had won. Eric Liu was even more surprised. His mother kept his win a secret until the awards ceremony. "When I came into the room I was wondering what my mom was doing here," said Eric. "I feel great now. The pressure's off."

Sean Hatzigeorgiou and Jonathan Kwok were also surprised to hear they'd won scholarships. "I was very surprised," said Sean. "The exam was tough."

"The math exam was pretty hard," agreed Jonathan. "I didn't think I had won."

This is only the third year the Old Boys' Association has awarded its own scholarship, which is financed through fundraising activities and donations from Selwyn House constituents. Academic Merit Scholarships have been awarded by the school since 1963. The Aditya Pathak Memorial Scholarship was inaugurated in 2004.



From left: OBA secretary Vince Guzzo, Michael Levy, Samantha Levy (front), Gloria Smagaren-Levy, Jake Levy, John Hatzigeorgiou (rear), Sean Hatzigeorgiou, Eric Liu, Yan Wang (Eric's mother), Jonathan Kwok, Fanny Kwok, Victoria and Jasmine Kwok (front), Sumedha Pathak (rear) and Asha Pathak.



# Old Boys' Association Board of Directors



Seen here are the members of the Old Boys' Association Board of Directors for 2005. From left: Hagen Mehnert '84; Alan Rossy '79; Ray Ayas '95; Michael Osterland '78; Paul Mayer '74, Vice-President; Vince Guzzo '86, Secretary; Tom Königsthal '74; Nick Powell '79; Fil Papich '77, President; David Skinner '82. Absent from photo: Bill Black '86 and Michael Avedesian '88.

## Veritas on-line

The magazine you hold in your hands includes alumni and school news from the 2005-2006 year at Selwyn House. Much of this material has already appeared in the on-line *Veritas* on the SHS Web site ([www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca)).

With the innovation of putting our news on-line, SHS constituents can get school news while it is still current, and can also access older articles in the *Veritas* archive. Current and archived articles are password protected for viewing and/or printing. Instructions for accessing the electronic version of *Veritas* will again be circulated among the SHS family.

The *Parents' Newsletter* is no longer being published in a print version. New and archived articles in the *Newsletter* can be accessed from the Selwyn House Web site.

We hope Old Boys enjoy accessing school news as it happens.

## Events cancelled

Two regularly scheduled events for Old Boys had to be cancelled this year. The ninth annual Old Boys' Hockey Tournament, in which Old Boys vie for the coveted Nicoll Cup, was scheduled for December 19, but had to be cancelled because of the season's biggest snowstorm.

The Old Boys' Curling Bonspiel, originally scheduled for February 26, was cancelled due to lack of participation. This event will not be scheduled for 2007.

# Two holes-in-one equals \$138,000

By: William Daly '52, Golf Committee Chairman



Above from left: Scott Jones (parent), Michael Avedesian '88, Jamie Ritchie '88 and Steve Green (parent) at the ninth hole.

Right: Geoff Dowd retrieves his ball after scoring a hole-in-one.



**W**hat are the odds? Two holes-in-one, a contest-winning 40-foot putt, a 150-yard winning drive in the target contest, a record number of players (116 including 15 ladies, another record), a picture-perfect day, and a record \$138,000 raised for Selwyn House and for charity!

The Golf Committee, headed by William Daly '52, would like to extend its thanks to everyone who made this superb day possible, including some very helpful volunteer parents. Generous sponsors, including tournament sponsor Vince Guzzo '86, the golfers and participants in the putting contest, and silent and live auctions helped us to surpass our goal. A sum of \$133,000 will be donated to the Selwyn House Old Boys' Endowment Fund, which provides financial assistance to deserving students. And, for the first time this year, a cheque of \$5,000 will be given to the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation, this year's chosen charity.

Congratulations to all the winners of the various categories and contests (see list next page) and special congratulations to the two players who beat the odds: Geoff

Dowd, former staff, who won a trip to Hawaii for his hole-in-one on the ninth hole (219 yds.), and guest Marc Beauchamp, who won the closest-to-the-pin prize for scoring a hole-in-one on the third hole (122 yds.). I'm sure there is an Old Boy actuary out there who could supply exact statistics regarding the odds of this happening!

The addition of a few new activities kept the tournament fresh this year. A 150-yd. target contest at the practice range, advice from the pro, who filmed players' swings, and a Porto tasting during the putting contest were a few of the ideas that made for a fun day.

Post round, our guests enjoyed a fabulous silent auction, cocktail and dinner. Trophies, door prizes and awards were given to very deserving players, and Old Boy caps were presented to the youngest players of the day from the Class of 2005: Phil Cutler, Matthew Shadley, Aaron Besner, Justin Kuzmicki, and Niki Thorpe. During dessert an exciting live auction took place, with auctioneer Mike Avedesian '88 on his game as he helped bidders part with over \$31,000 for items such as a plasma TV, a Formula 1 weekend, Zamboni rides, Habs tickets, signed jerseys from



## Golf Tournament

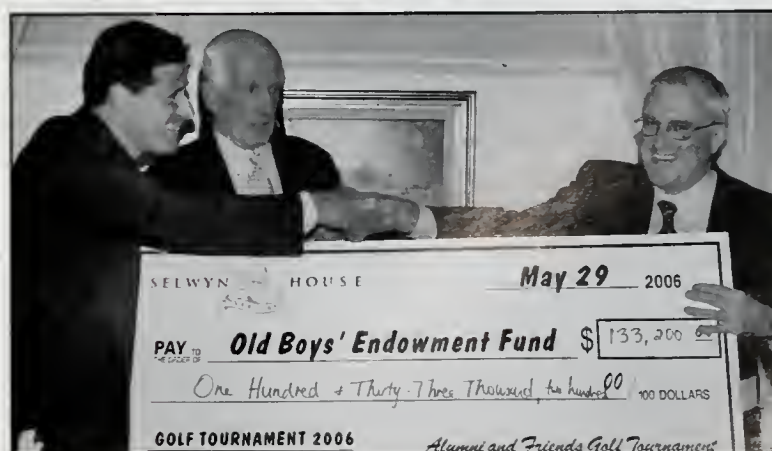
Alex Ovechkin, Vincent Lecavalier and the entire Montreal Canadiens team, as well as a signed goalie stick from Cristobel Huet.

The evening ended with a very appreciative Headmaster Will Mitchell accepting a cheque from OBA President Fil Papich. Representatives from the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation will be invited to receive their cheque at this fall's Spirit Day Assembly so that students will be able to appreciate how Selwyn House gives back to the community.

Many thanks to all who sponsored or participated in this year's tournament and to the staff at Kanawaki Golf Club for hosting us once again. We look forward to our 9th annual tournament on May 28, 2007.

For more photos, visit [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca). Look for *Veritas* and use the "safenews" password.

Top photo, the tournament committee, from left: Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations; David Miller '80; James McMillan, Director of Advancement; Ali Argun '80; Fil Papich '77, President, SHS Old Boys' Association; William Daly '52, Chairman; Sheila Jablonski, current parent; Michael Avedesian '88; Hagen Mehnert '84 and Bill Black '86. Missing: Rob Briscoe '87; Chris Gillett '85; Brad Massi '97 and Bill Shannon, current parent. Middle photo: William Daly presents the Old Boys' cup to Hagen Mehnert '84. Bottom photo: Old Boys' Association President Fil Papich (left) and Golf Tournament Chairman William Daly (centre) present a cheque for \$133,000 to Headmaster Will Mitchell.



### Results

Best Foursome ..... Alain Ostiguy  
Marc Airolti  
Marc Beauchamp  
Richard Plamondon  
Low Gross, Old Boy (81) ... Hagen Mehnert '84  
Low Gross, Guest (75) ..... Robert Preston  
Low Gross, Ladies (93) ..... Judy Martin  
Closest to Hole, Ladies ..... Judy Martin  
Closest to Hole, Men ..... Marc Beauchamp  
Longest Drive, Ladies . Sandy Pinchevsky (parent)  
Longest Drive, Men ..... Phil Cutler 2005  
Hole in one #1 ..... Geoff Dowd, former staff  
Hole in one #2 ..... Marc Beauchamp, guest  
Putting Contest winner .... Mark Smith, parent  
Target Contest winner ..... Alain Doyon, guest

## Golf Tournament

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Tavern on the Square  
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Tremblant  
Westmount Florist  
Wilfred & Adrienne  
**Special Thanks**  
James Altman



# 54 Old Boys inducted into OBA

By Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations

**C**ongratulations to the fifty-four most recent members of the Old Boys' Association.

The Class of 2006 was welcomed into the OBA by President Fil Papich '77 at a ceremony held in the Agora on June 12, following one of the many year-end exams. Fil explained how the presence of SHS Old Boys is significant as one goes through life, and that this year's graduates will come to realize this before long.

The students watched a slide show of OBA events of the past year, "home movies" to show them the type of activities and events that they will be invited to in the future.

Each new Old Boy received an alumni tie and a class photo, presented by the OBA president with the help of secretary Vince Guzzo '86, director Ray Ayas '95 and past president William Daly '52. The event concluded with a barbecue lunch with several Senior School teachers.



Class reps from the Class of 2006, from left: Dino Zammit, Stephen Tsoukas, Stefan Papich, Brian Lin, Rehman Manji, Andrew Funamoto, Ryan MacLean and Old Boys' Association President Fil Papich.

As with other recent grads, I know these guys won't take too long to come back to visit.



Below, Andrew Zakhari adds his name to the Old Boys' E-mail Directory. At right, Lawrence Said is welcomed into the OBA by Fil Papich and Vince Guzzo.



# 7th Old Boys' Tennis Tournament a knockout

By Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni Relations



The winners: Michael Penner '86 and Charles Porteous '84

**B**ecause tennis is such a civilized sport, the annual Selwyn House Old Boys' Tennis Tournament tends to be one of the easiest events to organize. And, with the help of William Daly '52 and SHS tennis pro Andy Lumsden, it's even easier.

On June 13 a group of 15 Old Boys and two staff players met at the Hillside Tennis Club for the annual tournament and dinner, a civilized evening, indeed.

There was a good mix of teams this year and having some new, younger players participate made for a really enjoyable night for all. The play was quite strong, and everybody seemed to get a good workout.

The team of Penner and Porteous reigned supreme in the semi-finals against Bastien and Ramsey in this knockout style tournament.

Congratulations to the winners, as well as to the good sports who will aim to win next year!

## Doubles Partners

Matthew Beckerleg '94  
and William Mitchell/Andy Lumsden  
Ted Claxton '73 and Jamie Ritchie '88  
Charles Colby '97 and Marc Schwarz 2001  
Dan Roiter '94 and Colin Ross '51  
Igor Lauw-Bastien '97  
and Andrew Ramsey '84  
William Daly '52 and Fil Papich '77  
Michael Penner '86  
and Charles Porteous '84  
Nick Kaulbach '94 and Nick Yanow '97

### Dinner Guests

Shawn Trudeau 2001  
Sharon Cozens, staff  
Courtney Prieur, staff



Top: Nick Kaulbach and Nick Yanow.  
Middle: Ted Claxton and Jamie Ritchie. Bottom: Charles Colby and Marc Schwarz



# IISPSL competition an overwhelming success

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Selwyn House came out a winner in October's international public speaking tournament, both as host school and in competition, placing fourth out of 58 teams, with one Selwyn House team member taking third place overall in individual standings.

The 24th annual competition of the International Independent Schools' Public Speaking League officially got underway on the afternoon of Wednesday October 27, when teams from seven countries began to arrive at the school for registration. But planning the event had been an ongoing project at Selwyn House for two years before.

The organizing committee, chaired by Kathi Biggs, head of the Senior English Department, worked mostly behind closed doors until the final week, when it suddenly became obvious that a massive mobilization of human resources was being mounted at the school. No detail was overlooked as teachers, students and an army of volunteers all pitched in to accomplish a logistical feat unlike anything the school has undertaken before.

All 162 arriving competitors were billeted by volunteer families in the Selwyn House community, with coaches being housed in downtown hotels. After registering, everyone was back at the school early Thursday morning to begin the competition, but not before the 120 volunteer judges required for each day's competition had been instructed in the task of adjudicating the high calibre of talent assembled from around the world.

The presence of a small army of committee members and student workers talking into headset walkie-talkies and brandishing cameras created a scene reminiscent of a large political convention or visit from a head of state. But the hum of activity did not distract the competitors as they quickly made new friends and prepared themselves for competition.

For three days the preliminary rounds took place in nine different events. In the evenings the guests were feted in true Montreal style. Friday night the group attended a Winter Carnival created for them in the Speirs Gym; Saturday evening they visited a Cabane à sucre in the



The Selwyn House team receives the plaque for placing fourth overall in team standings. From left, Headmaster Will Mitchell, team members Jonas Briedis, Jon Mechanic and Robert Hinrichsen, with Awards Banquet keynote speaker Justin Trudeau

Laurentians.

On Sunday morning the finalists were announced in each category for the day's final rounds, which were judged by the visiting coaches.

On Sunday night the winners were announced at a gala banquet featuring a keynote speech by Justin Trudeau. The feeling in the room was warm and convivial as the entire group, having grown to know one another over the course of the event, reveled in the spirit of accomplishment for what they had all been part of.

Nick Szymanis, President of the International Independent Schools' Public Speaking League, praised Selwyn House for doing a "brilliant" job organizing the competition. "Every aspect of the event went smoothly," he said. "Thanks for putting such a tasteful Montreal stamp on this tournament."

Everyone involved—competitors, coaches, organizers workers and volunteers—departed feeling that the school had staged an amazing event, one that not only promoted the art of communication, but that had also communicated a spirit of fellowship and goodwill around the globe.

# Desmarais and Desmarais receive Speirs Medal

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

France Chrétien-Desmarais and her husband, André Desmarais '73, received the school's highest honour when they were awarded the Speirs Medal at the 2005 Founder's Day celebrations on November 23.

In addition to being involved parents of three SHS students, the couple has done much to further the fortunes of Selwyn House. Mrs. Chrétien-Desmarais has served on the school's Board of Directors for 16 years. As Co-Chair of the "Making Room for the Future" Capital Campaign, André Desmarais has been a driving force behind the vast improvements that have been made at Selwyn House over the past several years.

The two have an overflowing slate of involvements outside the school. Even while immersed in raising her four children and becoming co-owner of Maxi-Crisp in 1995, France Chrétien Desmarais has always been involved in many charitable organizations. She is Chairman of the Montreal Heart Institute Foundation Board of Directors and a member of the board of directors of the organizing committee for the 2010 Olympic Games, as well as serving on many other boards, including the Quebec Heritage Foundation and the Council for Canadian Unity.

André Desmarais graduated from Selwyn House in 1973. After receiving his Bachelor of Commerce degree from Concordia University, he began working at Power Corporation in 1983. In 1996 he was appointed President and Co-Chief Executive Officer of Power Corporation of Canada and Deputy Chairman of Power Financial Corporation. He serves on the boards of several affiliated companies, as well as on many international economic and financial councils and foundations. He was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2003.

Selwyn House board member Mark Smith introduced the Speirs Medal recipients to the students of Selwyn House at the school's morning Founder's Day assembly. He recalled when André Desmarais agreed, in 1997, to help with the school's planned fundraising campaign.



From left: André Desmarais '73 and France Chrétien-Desmarais receive the 2005 Speirs Medal from Headmaster Will Mitchell and John Hallward, Chairman of the Selwyn House Board of Directors, at the 2005 Founder's Day celebrations.

"At that time all of the professional fundraising advisory people associated with the school said that we could raise no more than \$5 million dollars in the best-case scenario," Mr. Smith said. "Well, after many years of unbelievable hard work and persistence, his efforts have led to over \$17 million dollars being raised for Selwyn House."

Mr. Smith said that André Desmarais "pushed the envelope in many directions and accomplished what nobody thought could be done. As a result of his remarkable efforts, he has made permanent the notion that private schools are one of the most important elements of the fabric of any great city, and that they need to be supported in a significant way.

"We are all lucky that he has chosen this city to live in and Selwyn House as the educational institution for which he devotes so much time and effort."

In her message to the students, France Chrétien-Desmarais allowed that it can be difficult for students to meet the curriculum demands of a school like Selwyn

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*"The kids that are coming out of Selwyn House...are not only getting educated...they have a sense of community and a sense of giving back to that community."*

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## Founder's Day

House. "But believe me," she said, "it is well worth it and it can also be fun, and it will ensure that you acquire the necessary tools to further your education."

"And it's more rewarding when you include a sense of purpose and of responsibility," she added.

In his message to the students, André Desmarais began by stressing the importance of teamwork. "Nothing is accomplished on your own," he said. "Everything is accomplished because you have people who are willing to participate and get things done together."

He also made the point that a well-rounded education is important, because one never knows where life will lead. Years ago, he said, his company lost a bid to purchase a group of television stations, a disappointing loss, but one that led the company to move in another direction, getting involved in business in China at a time when trade with Asia was beginning to boom.

As a result, he said, he has spent the past 25 years traveling to China, developing business and political ties, eventually establishing the Canada-China Business Council.

"We lucked out," he admitted.

"The relationship between those two countries today is probably the best it's ever been in its history," he said, "and that didn't necessarily come out of a success—it came out of a failure."

When something bad happens, "think about the opportunity that that offers," he advised.

"You're really getting a fantastic foundation here [at Selwyn House] to develop your life and to move forward," he told the students. "Take advantage of the school and all it has to offer, because you really don't know where life will lead you."

### Evening programme

At the evening's Founder's Day dinner, before a crowd of Old Boys, staff and parents in Coristine Hall, the

Speirs Medalists were introduced by John Hallward, chairman of the board of Selwyn House.

"It has been said that it is easier to write a donation cheque than it is to give one's own time," Mr. Hallward said. "France and André have done both."

"I strongly doubt that we could have afforded the quality and nature of improvements that we now have at Selwyn House if it were not for the Desmarais. They challenged us to think boldly, and then they joined us to help realize our dreams. I have deep appreciation for what they have both contributed."

In his modest acceptance speech, André Desmarais praised the school for making the best use possible of the money he helped raise. "It's extraordinary what's been accomplished," he said. "If the school community had not come together the way it did, we would not have the school that we have today."

"And when I look at the kids that are coming out of Selwyn House, and I see how polite they all are, and I see that they are not only getting educated, but that they have a sense of community and a sense of giving back to that community, I think it's very moving and it makes the whole thing worth it."

Visit [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca) for more photos from Founder's Day. Look for *Veritas* and use the "safenews" password.



From left: members of the SHA Board: Norman Tobias, John Hallward (chairman), Prosanto Chaudhury, Judi Fish, France Chrétien-Desmarais, Duncan Campbell, Ted Claxton and Jonathan Goldbloom, with André Desmarais and Headmaster Will Mitchell

# Da Vinci Code premiere raises \$112,000

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Approximately 450 members of the Selwyn House community attended an exclusive world premiere of *The Da Vinci Code* on May 18, 2006, thanks to Old Boy Vince Guzzo '86 of Cinémas Guzzo. Before enjoying an advance screening of the most talked-about movie in years, guests sampled the fare of twelve restaurants and caterers at food booths set up in the lobby of the Marché Central theatre. In addition to ticket sales and live and silent auctions, a "Hidden Treasures" raffle and a "Mona Lisa Puzzle" raffle added to the night's proceeds totalling \$112,000. The money will be used to help finance renovations to the Coristine Hall dining room and kitchen at Selwyn House, along with a donation to the Montreal Children's Hospital.

The hard-working parent volunteers who made up the *Da Vinci Code* premiere Committee were: Sonia Besner, Christine Cachia, Nicole Charbonneau, Rozlyn Druckman, Leigh Guerriero, Karma Hallward, Julie Hooton, Debi Latsky, Michael Latsky, Amal Roy and Lisa Smith.

To view photos of the Selwyn House premiere of *The Da Vinci Code*, visit [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca).



Brigitte Bigras, winner of the Mona Lisa Puzzle raffle, with her husband, Roger Gervais

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# Upcoming events

To register for any of the events listed below, go to [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca) and select the Event Registration button. For more information, please contact James McMillan, Director of Advancement, at (514) 931-9481 ext. 269 or by e-mail at [mcmillan@selwyn.ca](mailto:mcmillan@selwyn.ca).

**August 2006:**

**Tuition Raffle**

Win tuition or \$10,000 cash (see flyer)

**Thursday, August 24, 2006:**

**7th Annual Barbecue for Young Alumni**

(Classes of 2001-2005)

6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Speirs courtyard

**Wednesday, September 13, 2006:**

**Wednesday Night Basketball – play resumes**

Macaulay Gym, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Friday, September 29, 2006:**

**28th Annual Old Boys' Reunion**

Selwyn House School, 5:00 p.m. tours, 6:00 p.m.

cocktails, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Pub until 11:00 p.m.

See back cover for more information.

**October 1, 2006:**

**Annual Giving campaign begins.**

**Wednesday, October 8, 2006:**

**Ottawa Old Boys' Reunion**

**Wednesday, October 11, 2006:**

**Vancouver Old Boys' Reunion**

**Thursday, October 12, 2006:**

**Calgary Old Boys' Reunion**

**Wednesday, November 22, 2006:**

**Founder's Day**

Selwyn House School turns 98 years old.

Cocktail reception for all constituents

Tuition Raffle draw

**Friday, December 15, 2006:**

**9th Annual Old Boys' Hockey Tournament**

Verdun Auditorium beginning at 1 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 25, 2007:**

**3rd Annual Colin No Basketball Classic**

Speirs Gym, Selwyn House School

**February 2007:**

**SHS Annual Fundraiser**

Date, venue and performers to be announced this fall.

**February 28, 2007:**

**Denver Old Boys' Reception**

**March 28, 2007:**

**New York Old Boys' Reception**

**April 18, 2007 (tentative):**

**Career Day**

**April 26, 2007 (tentative):**

**Toronto Old Boys' Reception**

**May 28, 2007 (tentative):**

**9th Annual Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament**

Kanawaki Golf Club

**June 2007 (date to be announced):**

**8th Annual Old Boys Tennis Tournament**

Hillside Tennis Club

## **The Centennial Committee needs your help!**

Current parent and outgoing Old Boys' Association President Fil Papich '77 has agreed to chair the Centennial Committee. Fil has worked with outgoing Director of Alumni Sharon Cozens over the past year to help build a team of volunteers that is comprised of a variety of the school's constituents: Old Boys Duncan Campbell '69, Jon Goldbloom '72, Board Chair John Hallward '78; parents Lili Le Fèvre and Lisa Smith; alumni parent Judy Martin; and staff members Kathy Funamoto, Jaime McMillan, Will Mitchell, and Courtney Prieur. There are several sub-committees which will require the help of many more volunteers. If you would like to get involved, please contact Courtney Prieur at 931-9481, ext. 246, or at [prieur@selwyn.ca](mailto:prieur@selwyn.ca).

# Old Boys give Career Day personal touch

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Almost all Career Day speakers are interesting, but the ones who are also Old Boys seem to make the greatest impression on SHS Seniors.

From the movie deals of Hollywood to the depths of the world's largest mines, to the halls of international finance to the psychology of selling beer and Spam, the professional exploits of SHS Old Boys make a better story than most reality TV, as students discovered on April 26.

## Charles Bierbrier '93

"Go big or go home." That's the motto of Charles Bierbrier, founder and president of Bierbrier Brewing.

Charles left a career in banking and finance to start up his own microbrewery, intrigued by the science of brewing and the love of marketing the final product. His brew is now selling well in regional bars, and will soon be seen in dépanneur coolers.

"I had no idea how rewarding this business could be," he admits. "Seeing people enjoying a product you produced from scratch is one of the coolest things I can imagine."

The schedule of promotional events (including those terrible, interminable tastings), marketing meetings, accounting duties and deliveries can string into 14-hour days, plus weekends.

He stressed the importance of loving one's work, as well as believing in the potential of one's own ideas.

He advised setting attainable and measurable goals, and also told the boys to be persistent and relentless "Some of the guys who told me to get lost are now my best clients," he said.

If you're willing to work hard, it doesn't feel like work, he said.

"Don't settle for things. Live your life. Do something you love and have fun with it."

## Geoff Moore '83

When Geoff Moore started out in the investment management industry, he had no background in finance or commerce. But he had prepared himself for greater opportunity through his previous job experiences, such as a stint as an intern at the Department of External Affairs, or working for Canadian Crossroads International in Togo, West Africa.



Charles Bierbrier '93

A global view is essential, he said. He also stressed the importance of networking. "The friends in your class will probably be your friends for life."

## Dr. John Udd '52

After 22 years teaching mining engineering at McGill, Dr. John Udd decided he wanted to get his hands dirty. So he joined Falconbridge Nickel Mines in Sudbury as senior ground control engineer for the mines in the west end of the Sudbury basin. Later, as Director of the Mining Research Laboratories of the Government of Canada during the period 1984-1996, he had a major influence on mining research.

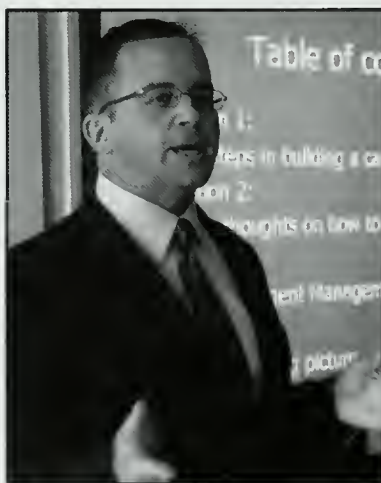
This represented a full circle for him. After graduating from McGill in 1959, Dr. Udd had gone straight into a job as shift foreman at Shefferville, with 100 people under him.

At Career Day, his enthusiasm for his profession was infectious as he cited some statistics for SHS students. "The mining industry is the highest-paying industry in Canada," he said. "Many jobs pay over \$100,000. It adds \$41B to our economy annually. Between one and three million Canadians are affected by what we do."

In the past quarter-century, Canada has become among the top three diamond producers in the world, he said.

To be an engineer, it's critical that a student follow the science stream in high school, he advised. "You need the math, the physics, the chemistry."

"I wasn't very good at math until a



Geoff Moore '83



## Career Day

guidance counsellor motivated me to learn it as a language."

Dr. Udd had some other advice for the students. "Learn how to write and use language." Communication skills are essential in almost any profession, he said. Likewise, learning to work with others in a team-oriented environment. One final tip: learn to use audio-visual equipment.

Dr. Udd then demonstrated that skill by showing the students slides of modern-day mining and how it contrasts with the old days. He showed an office at INCO in Sudbury where one woman was operating three underground drills simultaneously by remote control from a computer terminal above ground.

"We're unlocking tremendous resources," he said excitedly. "I intend to work until I drop, because I'm motivated to keep discovering."

### Jon Trzcienski, '90

"None of what you're thinking of now is what you'll be doing in your professional life," predicted Jon Trzcienski.

As Group Manager for Media and Broadcast for the Montreal Canadiens, he knows how one's career can have all the ups and downs of a Habs season.

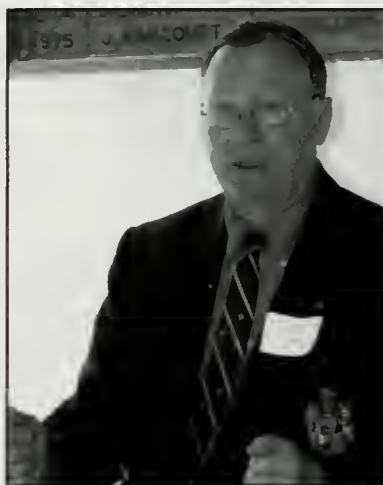
After graduating with honours in film and communications from McGill University in 1996, he landed a job as Web site coordinator for the Montreal Expos in February 2000, eventually working for Major League Baseball Advanced Media and the MLB.com network, then going on to join the Montreal Canadiens in September 2002.

With the Expos, his job mostly consisted of generating news copy for the team's Web site. "To see that team go (to Washington, D.C. in 2002) was awful," he said.

At that point he decided his home was in Montreal, and he didn't want to follow the Expos to D.C.

So he switched sports and went with the Canadiens, which he describes as "one of the best franchises in sports," based on long-term success.

Starting with the team as manager of internet services, he was promoted to group manager of the team's Media and Broadcast division in 2005.



Dr. John Udd '52

In this capacity he is charged with helping oversee the planning for the team's centennial in 2009, and the preparation of the bid to host the 2009 World Junior Hockey Championship.

His assignment is "to tie 100 years of history to the present."

His day-to-day activities consist of "running around the Bell Centre trying to coordinate everything," he says. While reviewing the video for that night's game, he might also be planning the after-game tailgate party.

"These days it's more ideas stuff," he said, with a lot of brainstorming with franchise employees, writing, looking for ideas and absorbing what's around him. "I'm not afraid to share my opinion," he said, and "Anything can happen on the job."

Asked how one can break in to his profession, Jon advised a student to get involved with any team in any capacity and take it from there.

And he urged students to take up extracurricular activities at school. "Beyond grades it's the extra things you do that will make a difference."

"Being passionate, dedicated and driven will get you far."

### Trevor Ham '87

Trevor Ham begins his talk by holding up an iPod. "What makes it special?" he asks. "It's no different from the knockoffs."

Answer: "They're cool. That's why people buy them." He points out the visual image that has been created to advertise this wildly popular product. The value of the product, he asserts, is in the cachet created by creating an emotional connection with members of the target market.

"Advertising is about getting through to people."

If all the Coca-Cola bottling plants in the world burned down, he said, the value of the company would remain high.

"The value of Coke is the name Coke."

"What I do as a profession is really cool," he says. "I build brands."

He does this by attracting the attention

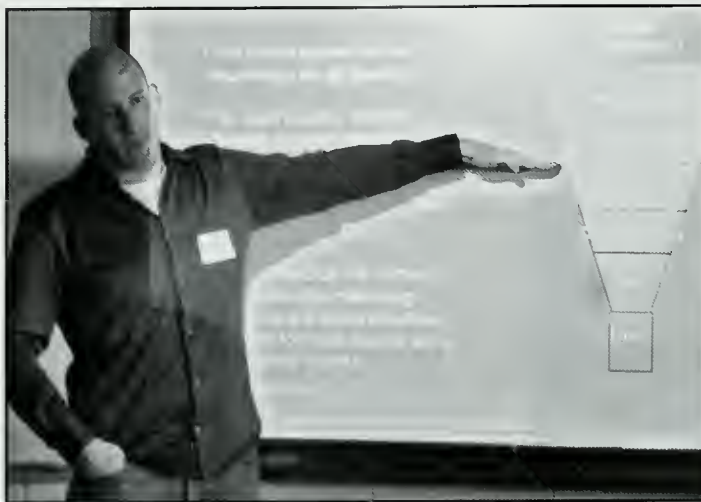
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Jon Trzcienski, '90

## Career Day

*Continued from previous page.*



**Trevor Ham '87**

of his audience with a concise message that follows certain principles:

- Limit your message to a few pieces of information
- Make it different from the competition
- Touch an emotional chord with your audience

As a society, he says, "We don't have enough attention to go around."

"An ad campaign is good if it understands the emotion of your target audience."

Two products to which Trevor has recently applied these principles are Spam and eggs. With his help, he says, "Boring old eggs started to take off." And Spam, developed during World War II as inexpensive luncheon meat, now has developed a cult following.

### **Vince Guzzo '86**

As Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer of Cinémas Guzzo, Vince Guzzo says the busiest time of his workday is around 3 a.m. That's when it's midnight in Los Angeles and he's receiving calls from movie distributors concerning the day's returns.

Vince has a lot invested in the fortunes of the box

office, so every day he reads reports of how every movie did in every theatre in North America.

"Business goes up tenfold on a rainy day," he notes.

Obtaining a business degree and a law degree was only the beginning of his training, he says.

Movies must now compete with the video game industry for the attention of the youth audience, so the competition in the movie industry is fierce and influenced by the ups and downs of all forms of entertainment, including sports.

On this one point he might disagree completely with Jon Trzcienski. "I hate it when the Habs get into the playoffs," says Vince.



**Vince Guzzo '86**

## News and Information at your fingertips: [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca)

### **On-Line Event Registration**

All SHS constituents can easily register for upcoming events. This secure site allows you to register and/or pay for your tickets via credit card. Or, if the event is free, you can reserve your seat. Look for the Event Registration button on the home page at [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca).

### **On-Line Donations**

The cheque need no longer be in the mail. Make your donations to Selwyn House School in a matter of minutes on a secure site. The On-Line Donation button is located on the home page at [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca).

### **On-line Publications...Password: safenews**

Keep in touch with the school via the SHS Web site. From here, the latest news on current students and their activities can be found by selecting the *Parents' Newsletter* link. And, for Old Boys wanting to read about their former classmates and Old Boy events, select the *Veritas* link. Note: The password "safenews" is required to access either of these electronic publications.



# Tiga charts the road less travelled

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

“The last time I was in this classroom I think I got suspended,” said Tiga Sontag at the opening of his Career Day talk. A typically offhanded remark for what must have been the most atypical speaker ever to give a keynote address at this event.

Tiga has done what many Selwyn House boys would like to do—taken his “desire to play records for people at parties” to the top of the charts of success.

Generally credited as the founding father of the club/rave scene in Montreal, Tiga has succeeded in parlaying his passion for music into a life where he jets regularly to Europe or Japan to spend two hours working as a DJ for thousands of fans, rubbing shoulders with stars like Cher and Kylie Minogue. In 2004 his CD was nominated at a Miami dance music awards ceremony featuring Paris Hilton and hosted by Carmen Electra.

Nice work if you can get it. But how?

“I never wanted to be a lawyer, doctor or physicist,” he said. “I knew I loved acting, performing, talent shows and improv class. I enjoyed opportunities to be on stage. I hoped I would be able to build a life around my creative dreams.”

After graduating from Selwyn House and studying Liberal Arts at Dawson, Tiga enrolled in history at McGill, a venture that was aborted when he discovered electronic music and the Montreal night life. At this point, he said, “University was doomed.”

He started working as a DJ at parties, then started throwing his own parties, which grew to include 2000-3000 people.

He opened a retail store (DNA Records), a night club (Sona), launched a weekly radio show, and founded his own record label, Turbo Records.

These days, his own recordings, which blend new material with dance covers of hit songs, are eagerly awaited by the public and draw laudatory reviews in the media. He’s the rage across Europe, with his face adorning the covers of scores of magazines printed in languages he probably can’t speak.

“It didn’t used to be this easy,” he admits. “My workload peaked in Grade 9. My life’s the bomb now.”



Tiga Sontag '90

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*“The ultimate sin of adolescence—being different—is a strength in the arts and creative industries. You can use it for inspiration.”*

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On a typical day, he says, he rises when he wants, checks the sports scores, walks the dog and then disappears into his basement studio, sometimes for 18 hours at a stretch.

As much as he loves what he’s doing, he admits it requires a lot of physical stamina, as well as an ability to work well with people, some of whom have star-sized egos.

“You have to have a vision in your head you really believe in,” he says.

A clear grasp of reality is another asset. “Your career can plateau at age 35 and it can all come crashing down,” he points out.

“You’re only as good as your last record.”

His memories of Selwyn House? “Praying for it to end,” he confesses. But his gratitude for what he gained here doesn’t lurk very far under the surface.

“I felt there was so little time and so many things I wanted to do,” he explains. “I’m lucky. I created the world I wanted to live in.”

But SHS, he quickly adds, provided a good foundation. “It gave me a lot of weapons to use.”

At school, he recalled, he enjoyed a “modest popularity,” being a bit alternative, a bit ostracized. “If you can deal with that, it will make you a stronger person. The ultimate sin of adolescence—being different—is a strength in the arts and creative industries. You can use it for inspiration.”

“Be proud of your difference,” he advised. “It will serve you well to be an underdog.”

He credits the school for instilling in him a work ethic that has paid off well in his career. “I didn’t engage school as much as I should have,” he admits. “The discipline you learn in a non-creative environment helps you in a creative field.”

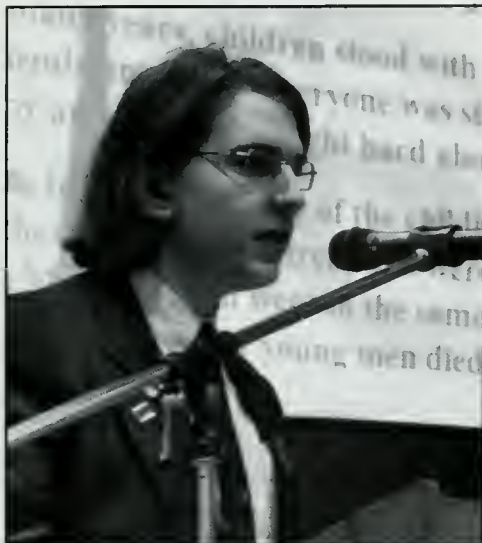
“Be a sponge. Don’t fight it. One day you’ll look back on school as a luxury, as a time when it’s justified to just learn.”

“You can’t plan [your life] but you can keep an open mind to the experiences you encounter.”

“I’ve been able to centre my career around my creativity, and until now it’s been the same dream every night.”

“I hope you find love in what you do.”

# Hinrichsen places third at Worlds



**R**obert Hinrichsen 11A distinguished himself and his school at the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championships, held at The Hotchkiss School in Connecticut March 21 through 27.

Robert came in third in Impromptu Speaking and placed sixteenth overall. He also competed in Persuasive Speaking with a speech on hazing, in Interpretive Reading with Earl Birney's poem, "David," and in Debate.

"He did us proud in all four events," says Robert's coach, Senior English Department Director Kathi Biggs.

Students from Canada, USA, England, Cyprus, Germany, Israel, Lithuania, South Africa, South Korea, and Pakistan competed in the world competition.

"We had a super time, with a fabulous day in Manhattan," adds Ms. Biggs.

To read a full text of Robert's Persuasive speech on hazing, visit [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca).

Photo: Robert Hinrichsen speaking at Selwyn House Remembrance Day ceremonies 2005

# Selwyn House debaters win Provincials

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

**T**wo students from Selwyn House School represented the Province of Quebec in the National Junior Debating Championships in April.

The team of Grade 9 students Ryan Brun and Trevor Hooton took first place in the provincial Junior Debating Competition, held at Weston School in NDG on April 7. Brun and Hooton joined the eight-member delegation that will represent Quebec at the National Championships, to be held at Branksome Hall School in Toronto from April 25-30.

In individual standings at the Provincials, Ryan Brun placed second at the Provincials and Trevor Hooton third. Selwyn House Grade 9 students Vinay Desai and David McLeod placed 10th and 12th, respectively. The strong finish by these four students earned Selwyn House a first-place ranking among schools in the Provincials.

Some of the topics for debate at the Provincials included: whether the United Nations should be moved

from New York, whether schools should have the right to inspect students' lockers, and whether high school graduates should be required to do community service.



Selwyn House debaters, from left: Ryan Brun, Trevor Hooton, Vinay Desai and David McLeod



# Athletic Banquet 2006



Members of the Selwyn House Sportsmen's Guild 2006, from left: Zachary Martin, Ramin Mohsenin, Dylan Brophy, Dino Zammit, Chris DesRosiers, Julien Dumont, Samer Balaghi, Mark Sadaka, Stefan Papich, Thomas Nation, Philip-Hector Tsoukas and Stephen Tsoukas.



From left: Middle School Director Carol Manning, Headmaster Mitchell and Board Member Duncan Campbell present the Cassils Memorial Trophy to Malcolm Pinnell.



Dino Zammit (left) and Samer Balaghi share the McMaster Trophy.

# Senior Prizegiving 2006

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

Selwyn House School stands at the convergence of challenge and opportunity, said Headmaster William Mitchell at the 2006 Senior School Prizegiving ceremonies, held in the Speirs gym on June 22.

"Our aim has been to prepare you to create opportunities for yourselves," the Headmaster told the graduates.

"In your time here, our effort has been to help you acquire skills and knowledge and develop a positive attitude for intellectual engagement and challenge.

"Furthermore, we hope you will find that we've helped you conduct a responsible life—towards those you love and those you work with. To do that successfully, you will need to have developed a sense of decency. No future success will derive real satisfaction if not done with decency. That is why we tried to have you understand your role in maintaining a civil community.

"When your parents enrolled you at Selwyn House, they expected you would receive an excellent overall education; that was a given.

"They believe the school contracted to do ABCD. We hope they got the XY and Zs as well—those intangibles of responsibility and independence, confidence without arrogance, empathy and integrity.

"We will remember you as a class that succeeded on these counts impressively and on an individual basis, often spectacularly.

"For that we admire you, and we thank you for your contribution to our efforts to make this an even more effective place of learning."

In his valedictory speech, Head Prefect Samer Balaghi also dwelt on the opportunities his fellow graduates face at this milestone in their lives.

"The past is for us to keep, the present is for us to enjoy, and the future is for us to reach," he said. "We must take advantage of life. Our opportunities are so great and our possibilities so high that we have no reason not to."

Samer recounted a story of a halftime speech Coach Mike Maurovich gave to the juvenile football team during a



Head Prefect Samer Balaghi receives the Lucas Medal from Selwyn House Board Chairman John Hallward.

game this year. "We were sitting in the locker room with our heads low, losing by a touchdown," he recalled. "The coach came storming in and released some of his anger verbally. Included in what he yelled were some very real words. He said something along the lines of, 'Quit playing like you don't want to be here. It's too late to leave. Since you have to play the game anyway, you might as well go out and win it.' A life lesson there: Work with integrity, heart, and desire. Champions don't wait for opportunities, they seek them."

"The present is only here for a short while, so we mustn't let it get too close to us," Samer said. "If we are in a moment of success, we should enjoy it, but should not congratulate ourselves too much."

"If we haven't already started, we must now begin to create our own world," he continued. "We cannot let ourselves fall into someone else's."

The head prefect quoted author and lecturer Marianne Williamson, who wrote, "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? Your playing small doesn't serve the world."

"These words carry with them all the meaning necessary for us to view our place in the world," said Samer.

"We'll look at what lies ahead and make whatever it is that we want our destiny to be."

This year's Prizegiving ceremonies also included two unprecedented presentations. Richard Reznick, brother of Seth Reznick, a Middle School student who died from cancer in December 2003, presented a medal to each graduate in memory of Seth.

Also, for the first time in recent memory, The Redpath Herald Award was presented to a faculty member, rather than a student. The award was presented to retiring Senior School Director Rob Wearing, whose descriptions of each graduate have long been a highlight of Prizegiving.

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*"If we haven't already  
started, we must now begin  
to create our own world.  
We cannot let ourselves fall  
into someone else's."*

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## Prizegiving

### Academic Awards

Grade 9: 1st, David McLeod; 2nd, Trevor Hooton;

3rd, Louis Gervais

Grade 10: 1st, David Ta Kim; 2nd, Gerald Kounadis;

3rd, James Rossy

### Distinction Awards

Chemistry – James Duffy, Robert Hinrichsen

McGill Science Award – Lawrence Said

Physics – James Duffy, Robert Hinrichsen

Biology – David Ta Kim

Creative Writing – Jonathan Mechanic

McCall Prize for Art – Andrew Funamoto

Economics – Daniel Janusauskas

Geography – Jonathan Mechanic

French – *Langue Maternelle*, Jason Leopold, Kyle Burrows;

*Langue Enrichie*, Daniel Cohen;

*Langue Régulière*, Chris Codina-Lucia, Andrew Pelekis

Christie History Prize – Kyle Burrows

Consul General of Spain Prize for Distinction in Spanish –

Samer Balaghi, David McLeod

Byron W. Harker Prize for Literature – Andrew Zakhari

Moodey Prize for Mathematics – Lawrence Said

Massi Prize for Effort – Jason Leopold

### Special Awards

Public Speaking Prize – Robert Hinrichsen

E.C. Moodey Prize for Distinction in Debating – Ryan Brun,  
Trevor Hooton

Patricia Marsh Drama Prize – Kyle Burrows, Shreyas Sukumar

Philip Quaid Memorial Prize – Trevor Hooton

Ernst Brandl Memorial Trophy – Vinay Desai

Aditya Pathak Memorial Medal for Humanity – Graham Hooton

Robert A. Speirs Memorial Award – Ryan Quinn

Harvard Book Award – Will MacCulloch

University of Toronto National Book Award – Robert Hinrichsen

Thomas Henry Pentland Molson Prize – James Duffy

Governor General's Bronze Medal – Robert Hinrichsen

YMCA Community Service Award – Ryan MacLean,

Andrew Funamoto

Millennium Prize (donated by the Class of 1999) – Anto Tang

Thomas Chalmers Brainerd Memorial Award – Kyle Burrows

Jeffrey Russel Prize – Daniel Janusauskas

Lucas Memorial Medal – Samer Balaghi

Redpath Herald Award – Rob Wearing

For more photos, visit [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca).



Prize winners, back row, from left: Jason Leopold, James Duffy, Andrew Zakhari, Anto Tang, Daniel Janusauskas, Andrew Pelekis, Louis Gervais, Lawrence Said, Graham Hooton, William MacCulloch, Ramin Mohsenin, Dino Zammit, Shreyas Sukumar and Robert Hinrichsen. Middle row: Daniel Cohen, Jon Mechanic, Chris Codina-Lucia, Gerald Kounadis, Ryan Quinn, Rob Wearing, Samer Balaghi, Andrew Funamoto and Ryan MacLean. Seated: David Ta Kim, Trevor Hooton, Vinay Desai, David McLeod and Kyle Burrows.

# The Class of 2006...



## Staff DEPARTURES

Selwyn House loses two high-profile staff members this year, with the departure of Sharon Cozens, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations, and Sylvie Bastien-Doss, Director of Admission.



Sharon Cozens

Sharon started at Selwyn House in 1992, serving as Director of Admission until 1996. From 1997 until 1998 she served as Elementary and Middle School Assistant. From 1998 until the present she was Director of Alumni and Parent Relations.

Sharon will join the Advancement Office at Trafalgar School for Girls in August, and will become

Director of Advancement upon the retirement of the incumbent.

Sylvie started teaching French at SHS in 1990 after eight years at The Priory School. She later became Head of the Elementary French Department, where she stayed until 1997, when she moved over to the Admission Department to replace Sharon Cozens when Sharon moved to Vancouver.

Sylvie is now going to The Study, where she will be Director of the Elementary School.



Sylvie Bastien-Doss



# ...where will they be this fall?

Robert Abelson	Commerce	Dawson
Samer Balaghi	Honours Commerce	John Abbott
Daniel Blanshay	Social Science	Dawson
Charles-Edouard Bonaldo-Corning	Visual Arts	Dawson
Jonas Briedis	Liberal Arts	Hotchkiss
Kyle Burrows	Arts and Science	Marianopolis
Nicholas Cabana	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Philip Cabana	Commerce	Marianopolis
Wynnyn Chan	Arts and Science	Marianopolis
Brendan Cheong		Sheridan College
Christopher Codina-Lucia	Science	John Abbott
Daniel Cohen	Commerce	Marianopolis
Nicolas Congram	Social Science	Marianopolis
Neil Desai	Science	John Abbott
Christopher DesRosiers	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
James Duffy		Ashbury College
Julien Dumont		Phillips Exeter
Andrew Funamoto	Fine Arts	Dawson
Ross Gelber	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Robert Hinrichsen		Phillips Exeter
Alan Ho	Social Science	John Abbott
Enoch Ho	Health Science	Marianopolis
Vincent-Charles Hodder	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Daniel Janusauskas	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Gavin Kenneally	Arts and Science	Marianopolis
Jason Latsky	Pure and Applied Science	Dawson
Jason Lau	Social Science	Marianopolis
Jason Leopold	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Brian Lin	Health Science	Marianopolis
Ryan MacLean	Social Science	Marianopolis
Rehman Manji	Social Science	Marianopolis
Jonathan Mechanic	Liberal Arts	Dawson
Alessandro Melotti	Social Science	Marianopolis
Thomas Nation	Commerce	John Abbott
Thang Nguyen	Health Science	Marianopolis
David Oliver	Social Science	Dawson
Fabrizio Pantalone	Social Science	John Abbott
Stefan Papich	Commerce	Marianopolis
Andrew Pelekis	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Rohan Rakheja	Health Science	Marianopolis
Mark Sadaka	Honours Commerce	Marianopolis
Lawrence Said	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Samer Sallman	Social Science	Champlain
Jeremy Say	Developmental Science	Dawson
Jordan Shrier	Social Science	Dawson
Shreyas Sukumar	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Anthony Tang	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Philip Tsoukas	Health Science	Marianopolis
Stephen Tsoukas	Health Science	Marianopolis
Kristian Valenta	Commerce	Marianopolis
Bryan Wong	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Nicholas Wybo	Pure and Applied Science	Marianopolis
Andrew Zakhari	Health Science	Marianopolis
Dino Zammit	Science	John Abbott

# Big brother to hundreds hangs up his tie

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

**O**n the day 33 years ago when Rob Wearing first came chugging down Argyle Street in his van, the Selwyn House boys were not sure what to make of their new phys-ed teacher.

"I had an open-neck shirt and very long hair," Rob recalls. "Of course the kids were all immaculately dressed and with short hair. So I didn't meet the dress code, and I felt quite awkward."

Rob had just come from a five-year stint teaching and coaching at an inner-city Toronto school where there was a huge sports programme. "I was coming from a school where there were a lot of pretty fast guys," he recalls. "Coming to Selwyn House, the calibre of athletics wasn't the same. It was then that I wondered what I'd gotten myself into."

In those days Selwyn House was a much different place. The male teachers had their own, smoke-filled staff room. The school had only 350 students and George Dewland cooked all the meals and did all the cleaning.

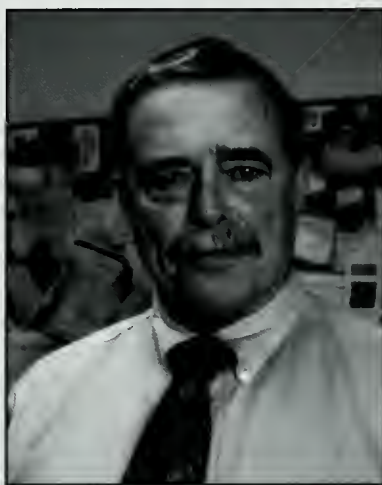
"At that time, the school had a very academic nature," he says. "Dr. Speirs was still here teaching linguistics, and Jack Martin was teaching Latin. Everybody participated in intramural sports. There may have been some athletic competition against other private schools, but certainly not against public schools."

"Time was a bit of a problem. When I taught in Toronto you naturally practised five days a week. When I came here the teams were only practising three days. I could hardly believe it."

"We had a lot of gymnastics, as a holdover from the British tradition, and there were some kids who were doing some incredible things. There were injuries but parents seemed to think that was part of being a boy and going to school and taking part in gym class."

Through sheer dedication Rob was soon wringing championship performances out of football, rugby and wrestling teams that didn't even exist when he came here. "As Alexis Trouberskoy allowed us to increase the number of phys-ed teachers, we began to have more instructional phys-ed along with the team sports. So it was just a matter of time before the teams got better and better, and they began to play against more schools and had reasonable amounts of success."

Thirty-three years later, he has not only transformed Selwyn House into a force to be reckoned with athletically, but, as Senior School Director, has guided hundreds of young men through years of growth and challenge, for



which they will always be grateful.

Born in London, Ontario, Rob received his BA from Western University. The only thing he knew about private schools was that, "In London, at that time, they sent all the bad kids to Ridley."

Rob and his wife, Esther, who teaches elementary school, moved to Montreal the same summer they were married. They didn't plan to stay long. "Times became tough due to high inflation and so on, so movement wasn't very easy. And then, of course, you start raising children and movement is no longer as attractive as it once was." Rob's children, Ben '94 and Alison, are both excellent athletes in their

own right, Ben having played football in the CFL and Alison coaching hockey at LCC.

Before long, Rob was expanding his duties at Selwyn House, becoming Director of Athletics, then Director of Secondary School in the early 80s, interim co-headmaster for six months in 1984, and then Director of Senior School when a separate Middle School was established in 1994.

Along the way, he has also taught student awareness classes for years, helping pupils deal with sensitive issues like sex, drugs and alcohol, and teenage depression.

"Even though I've been here 33 years, I've done three or four different things. So it hasn't been like being in the same school," he says. "At one time I was here while Ben was here, so I enjoyed that part of it. It gives you a different perspective on things."

Saying he always felt more like an older brother than a father figure to his students, Rob admits his greatest regret over the years has been the students who "you want to keep in school but you don't know how you're going to do it. It always seemed to me that the school took a student in, so there was some obligation to make sure he got through, come hell or high water," he says, "and sometimes the water was pretty high. I always took it very personally when a kid was asked to leave or failed or decided to go elsewhere."

"I always enjoyed kids. If you keep your eyes and ears open they can teach you an awful lot. I'm sure I learned as much from them as I imparted to them. Hopefully you never make the same mistake twice. Once you learn a lesson you learn it well."

One of the reasons Rob was initially enticed to come to Selwyn House was because he thought it would be something completely different.

Has it lived up to that expectation? "It has, indeed," he says with a smile.



# Lessons from a lifelong love of books

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

She was a child celebrity, a political poster girl who nearly spent her life trapped behind the Iron Curtain, separated from the parents she had never known. But Kathi Biggs' life got really interesting when she began teaching at Selwyn House.

Born in Hungary in 1948, Ms. Biggs was three months old when her parents went to Austria on holiday, leaving her with her grandparents. While her parents were away, the Communists took over Hungary and closed the borders.

Her parents moved to Canada in 1951, where they petitioned every week for Kathi's release. Finally, in 1956, a deal was brokered that allowed her to leave. "When I arrived at Dorval Airport on May 25, 1956, there were flashbulbs everywhere," Ms. Biggs recalls. "I didn't understand what it was all about."

Arriving in Canada at age 8, she lived on Elm Ave., practically next door to present-day SHS. She advanced quickly through elementary school with the help of tutoring in English. "That's why I'm such a stickler for grammar," she explains.

"I was also inspired by Mrs. Ryan, my Grade 10 English teacher, and by my father, who read voraciously, non-stop. We'd discuss books together into the night."

She attended St. Paul's Academy and Westmount High, got her BA at Loyola (now Concordia) and her teaching degree from McGill in 1977.

A chance encounter led to a job teaching senior English at The Study, where she stayed for 13 years.

In 1991, Geoff Dowd, who was then head of Elementary and Middle School at Selwyn House, called her to temporarily replace Dr. Byron Harker, who had been diagnosed with cancer and was expected to be out of school for six weeks. "I happily came in and just loved my experience," she recalls. "Dr. Harker came back in good health and I was sorry to go," but a job in Middle School came up, so she taught in both Middle and Senior schools. "Those were the best years I ever spent."

"Byron Harker was a remarkable guy. He really set the gold standard for teaching. I was privileged to work with him and we became very good friends. I'm still devastated by his death after all these years."

After Dr. Harker died in 1999, she was chosen to replace him as head of the Senior English Department.

Aside from her classroom work, Ms. Biggs has had outstanding success as public speaking coach. "My boys have been to a lot of places," she says proudly, including



Botswana, South Africa, Cyprus, the U.S. and England twice. "I've loved it. Our highlight year was in 2001, when Daniel Wilner, Luke Reid and Adrian Gaty became the top Canadian team and top team overall at the Worlds. That was remarkable. I don't think many other schools have achieved that."

Ghandar Chakravarty '96, Sean Bernstein 2003, Richard Martz '97 and Theo McLaughlin '99 are other names in her mental scrapbook. "What pleases me more than any championship they have won is when I go to a wedding or a funeral and hear them give a speech and hear them put

their skills to work in a real-life context."

Organizing the International Independent Schools' Public Speaking League competition last fall was one of the highlights of her career.

For more than 12 years, she has planned grad activities each spring. "It's like throwing a wedding with 57 mothers of the bride," she says. "The generosity of the parents is what has made that work over the years."

And she has been coaching tennis throughout her career here. "That's been a joy," she says. "Working with Andy Lumsden is so great."

Other unique standouts in Kathi's Selwyn House memories include having her bedroom renovated by the 2004 Grade 11s for *Debbie Travis' Facelift* show, and receiving a special end-of-year gift from Jared Tauben 2003, a detailed critique of every outfit his notoriously style-conscious teacher had worn throughout the year.

Asked whether her students today are as literate as those of the past, Ms. Biggs weighs the pros and cons of electronic media. "The boys are spoiled by the facility with which research is done, and that it always comes with bright lights.

"But I love the feel of books, and they don't know anything about that. Too few have newspapers in their homes. Books are not always held in esteem in every home the way they were in my home. That makes a difference. Reading is not always modeled as a great activity."

"Still, I've had some incredibly talented readers and writers, and that hasn't changed. If there has been a loss of English skills at all...it's more the demands that life has placed on students. Being 16 or 17 years old today is a tough job."

"The biggest challenge of teaching is to...have them see the importance of a book like *The Grapes of Wrath*. To get the kids' hearts to go out to that text is important. To see them have a breakthrough is amazing."

# Math teacher sums it up after 1/3 of a century

By Richard Wills, Publications Editor

**K**nowledge, patience and a sense of humour. These are the three essential qualities a teacher must have, says Phil Litvack. He should know. After 33 years teaching math at Selwyn House, he's had all those qualities tested more than once, but still feels they add up to a formula for success in his field.

Phil and his wife, Debby, who teaches in the public system, plan to retire together at the end of this year.

Born in Montreal and raised in Snowdon, he and Debby have lived in Dollard des Ormeaux since 1980. "It's a great place to bring kids up," he says.

A month before he graduated from McGill in 1973, he received an offer of a job teaching math at Selwyn House. "I didn't want to wait around all summer, so I took the Selwyn House offer."

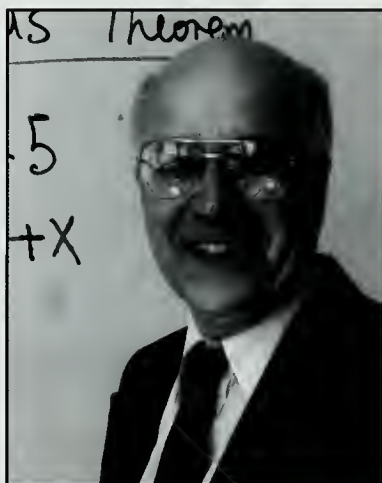
"This was my first and only teaching job. I remember the interview with Mr. Moodey. With his pipe it was very hard to understand what he was saying. You didn't know if what you were saying was what he wanted to hear. They offered me a job teaching math and I took it. I didn't know if I'd be teaching one year or ten."

Since that day he has taught math at every level from Grade 4 to Grade 11, as well as Grade 8 science, at times leading the chess club, bridge club and yearbook, not to mention directing Prizegiving ceremonies for 10 years and coaching badminton for 25.

"Math is a little easier (than other subjects) to teach to high school students because you don't have to justify it as much," he says. "They see a reason for taking math, even though they may or may not do well in it. I think it's a little harder to justify English or history or some other courses where they wonder why they have to read some book from long ago. They figure they'd better study math just to keep their options open."

"For teaching, you need to know your subject, because the kids will see through you if you don't. Probably more importantly, you have to have patience, and you really have to have a sense of humour. You have to know how to take things in stride and when to laugh. Otherwise you're not going to get through to them. They have to see you as a human being. You have to earn their respect."

"Being with the students is the fun part of teaching," he adds. "At the end of the year there are always a few students who come up and thank you, and it's not always the ones who are getting 90s. It's often the ones at the other end [of the scale] who thank you because you've tried."



"I consider myself one of the fortunate few people who don't mind going to work every day."

He feels that working in an independent school has helped make his career more enjoyable. "I knew nothing about private schools when I first started here," he recalls. "I don't know if there was that much of a difference when I started, but today I'd say private schools are better, you're going to get better kids. In general, you do get the better kids here, and the classes are smaller. Today, in public education they're lacking money, they're lacking books.... We don't have to worry so much about money for math contests

and things like that. The money is available."

"We've had students who have done exceptionally well. We've had students who have written the Math Olympics. Since 1980 we've had a programme that enables students to take calculus in Grade 11. We have a tough programme, and it's hard for some of our students to get through it, but most of them manage."

"Teaching is different from what it was even ten or fifteen years ago," Phil says. "Kids are different. How they learn is different. What they want to learn is different. Their family backgrounds are different. There are a lot more kids who come from families that are having problems in one way or another, and that affects their schooling. It's much more noticeable today, but that's part of society. Times have changed and the kids reflect this."

Phil says he has enjoyed mentoring new teachers when they arrive at Selwyn House. "It's a demanding job, and it takes a toll on you physically. A lot of people don't realize that teaching can be physically tiring."

"Selwyn House is a physically bigger school now. Things are more spread out, which has its good points and its bad points. You don't see your colleagues as much. "I'll miss the interaction with them when I leave."

"But I have thoroughly enjoyed my career here. At home I have a stack of cards from students thanking me for one thing or another. I've enjoyed it. I have no regrets. And I think this is the right time for me to go. It's not the end of something; it's the beginning of another phase, and I'm looking forward to it."

Phil and Debby are looking forward to a bit of travel, more time to play bridge with their neighbours, and time with their children, Robert, 26 and Laura, 23.



# The Parent Volunteer Report

## Admission Volunteers

Lili Le Fèvre, Coordinator

VISAs (Visit the School in Action days)...Open House...Entrance Exams...Kindergarten testing...more VISAs...and finally the New Parents Reception. All could not be executed without an incredible team of admission volunteers.

They have walked the halls and talked the Selwyn Story. Nothing stops them. No question is left unanswered. If they do not know, they are quick to find the answer! Anxious parents are immediately put at ease by their friendly smiles; children are calmed by their funny stories. Admission volunteers are often the first face seen by prospective parents and this team is a selling success story. Working hand in hand with the fantastic team of Sylvie Bastien-Doss and Marsha Warmuth, admission volunteers ensure our new parents feel welcome. We thank them for all their efforts and continued dedication.

## Class Parents Report

Martha Fitzpatrick, Coordinator

This year was the first time in years that the class parents were called upon for all three of their major duties!

Most grades enjoyed two class socials this year thanks to the efforts of the class parents. Class socials ranged from morning coffee to dinner out or a wine and cheese at school with a guest speaker.

The phone chain had to be used for the first time in many, many years. On December 16, we had our only massive storm of the season. Not only was the school closed, but the Elementary School play also had to be

rescheduled. The emergency phone chain was put into action and within 30 minutes the whole school was notified of the cancellation! This was achieved by class parents!

Teacher Appreciation Week was held in early February. On Wednesday, February 8, the staff was treated to baked goods served with Second Cup coffee. On Thursday, February 9, the parents showed off their culinary skills with a pot-luck luncheon for the teachers in the Agora. The teachers were also pampered with 15-minute chair massages on these days. The parents helped enthusiastically to show how much they appreciate the hard work and tireless energy of the entire staff. Also new this year was a raffle for the teachers. Raffle prizes included home-baking certificates redeemable anytime until the end of the year and the use of a family cottage for a week during spring break.

## SHS Parent Education

Joanne Hébert, Coordinator

The SHS Parent Education Committee endeavours to make parents aware of opportunities to read, hear and talk about...parenting. Some examples from this past year include:

- Parlour Groups

Small groups of interested parents of boys in a specific grade met monthly at each other's homes, where discussions, sometimes facilitated by the SHS school counselor or a group leader from Jewish Family Services, addressed the concerns of the parents in attendance. This year, parents of students in Grades 9, 7 and Kindergarten participated in parlour groups.

- Grade Level Meetings

These took place at the school for several grades and featured the SHS Counselor, Minna Shulman, who tailored her presentation to the developmental issues of the specific age and grade level of the boys. The presentations were followed by a lively question-and-answer period and a parent social.

- Gordon Neufeld

Gordon Neufeld, a psychologist, therapist, and author of *Hold On To Your Kids—Why Parents Matter* shared his ideas on how parents, by creating and maintaining strong attachments and remaining involved in their lives (despite the objections), can positively nurture, empower and discipline their kids.

- Don Tapscott

Don Tapscott, an expert in the wise use of technology, and author of *Growing Up Digital*, assured parents that we need not be afraid of parenting in this digital age. We can embrace the use of technology, as our kids have, but we must set the limits for them.

*Continued on next page.*



PVA executive, from left: Nicole Charbonneau, Lisa Smith, Rosemary Clarke, Julie Hooton, Maria Zammit, Martha Fitzpatrick, Firouzeh Aziz, Caroline Chouinard, Joanne Hébert, Lisa Osterland, Lili Le Fèvre and PVA Coordinator Courtney Prieur.

## The Parent Volunteer Report, continued

*Continued from previous page.*

• Barbara Coloroso

Barbara Coloroso, author of *Kids Are Worth It*, *The Bully*, *the Bullied* and *the Bystander* and several other titles, spoke on how to teach kids to think and act ethically by showing them how to care deeply, share generously and help willingly.

The above represents a small sample of the myriad of possibilities available in parent education. We hope to see and hear from many parents again next year.

### Lunch Service

Leigh Guerriero, Coordinator

This year, lunch service was a great success, with a record number of 35 volunteers. This allowed us to have about seven volunteers every lunch hour to help and serve the Kindergarten to Grade 2 students.

We had three meetings throughout the year to entertain and discuss ideas and suggestions including topics such as table manners, serving techniques and encouraging healthy choices. In April, the lunch service volunteers were given a virtual tour of the new auditorium/kitchen/dining hall facility. It looks like it will be a lot more efficient and pleasant for both the boys and the kitchen staff. Noise reduction has also been addressed in the design and materials to be used for the walls, ceiling and floor.

Thank you so much to the dedicated volunteers who made this program a success and an enjoyable experience for our children. Hope to see you all back in September in the new dining room!



Nadine Tsoukas is served by Gerry Nikolopoulos 1A at the Parent Volunteer Appreciation Tea.

### Community Service

By Myrna MacLean

Students from Kindergarten to Grade 11 took part in several Community Service events and fundraisers throughout the school year. The various activities and initiatives taken on by students are listed below. Community Service is a great way for the boys to learn about local and international charities and to get involved in events outside the school.

A new event that Selwyn House took part in was the Splash & Dash relay race on November 19, 2005. Students from Grade 6-11 formed teams of three and competed in a run-swim-run relay at the McGill Sports Complex. All funds raised supported the Sarah Cook Foundation at the Montreal Children's Hospital, and the kids had a great day competing against other local schools. Each one received a free T-shirt, lunch and team photo. Several Senior School students and Mr. Wearing helped to set up and take down the equipment for the event. We hope to see more teams competing at next year's event!

The food and clothing drive was another great success! Senior School students unloaded used clothes and canned goods from cars at morning drop-off between November 21-25, 2005. The Middle School students worked very hard at packing over 75 boxes of food and clothing for Share the Warmth and Dans la Rue. Just before the December holiday break, Mr. Wearing and several Senior School students packed the Selwyn House bus and a rental truck to deliver the boxes to the above organizations. Many thanks to all the families who donated generously this past holiday season.

### Community Service events included:

- Terry Fox Run – K-11
- Shave to Save for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation – Senior School & Staff
- Bake sales for the Heart & Stroke Foundation – Grade 3
- Splash & Dash relay event for the Sarah Cook Fund – Grades 6-11
- Food & Clothing Drive for Share the Warmth and Dans la Rue – K-11 & staff collected food and clothes. Senior School delivered it all.
- Singing songs for the elderly – Grade 2
- Toy Tea – Grade 3
- Christmas caroling for seniors at St. Mathias Church – Grade 3
- Peter Pan (Elementary School play), donation to Share the Warmth – Door collection at event
- Christ Church Lunch – Grades 8-11
- La Corvée du Mont-Royal – Four families and staff

*Continued on next page.*



## Career Day: a parent's perspective

By Nicole Charbonneau, PVA Chair and Career Day Committee member

One of the perks of being on the Selwyn House Career Day Committee is the opportunity to sit in on some of the workshops with the boys. I chose two I thought my son would be interested in so that I could become better informed. I remember from my own experience in high school that most students don't have a clue what they want to be as adults!

Alex Hyder '77 has a career that our boys must think is all fun and games, as he is director of video game development at Electronic Arts in Montreal and is responsible for the development of NHL 07 on PlayStation2 and PSP.

Vince Guzzo '86 explained why his business and law degrees helped him take his father's business to the next level and make Cinémas Guzzo the best movie theaters possible. The most important message he had was, "I want you boys to remember that learning to take decisions in life is necessary if you want to be successful at whatever you decide to do."

Tiga Sontag '90 is a DJ, producer, founder of Turbo Recordings and has owned a record store and a night club in Montreal. Between travels to Europe and Australia, where he spends most of his weekends as a DJ, and Montreal where his recording studio is, it is no surprise that this constant creator is very happy that he can work in what he always wanted to: the music and entertainment businesses. He encouraged the boys to follow their passion but to remember that you have to work hard. He



Nicole Charbonneau

remembers not being able to go out with his friends at the beginning because he worked long hours, but as he said "It's better than coal mining."

John Trzcienski '90 is Group Manager, Media and Broadcast with the Club de Hockey Canadien Inc. What a great job for a sports enthusiast! Because he always wanted to be in the film industry, he spent a lot of time while at CEGEP and university writing for different papers and producing shows, which gave him the edge needed to land a job with the Montreal Expos as Web site coordinator after being in sales for a while. Not having to

work 9 to 5 and being able to work with people in the sports industry makes his career perfect for him.

What was most important about Career Day was the message they all gave our sons: Work hard. You may not think so now, but you are privileged and what you are learning today will help you tremendously after Selwyn House. Find what you love and make this passion into a career if you can. Be involved outside the classroom and that will make you stand out from the competition when you apply for a job. The discipline, work ethic, rigour and teamwork skills you are learning at Selwyn House will serve you well and you will be better prepared than most other students at CEGEP and university. And, as Tiga pointed out, "Some of the friends you are making will be keepers."

Because these men were Old Boys, I believe they had a bigger impact on our sons. As a mom, I would be proud if my son turned out as well as any of them.

## The Parent Volunteer Report, continued

members helped clean the mountain.

- Music Cabaret, donations for the Just for Kids Foundation – door collection at event
- National Denim Day – K-11

### Fundraisers included:

- Free dress days to raise money for various charities – K-11
- Black Selwyn wristband fundraiser for Terry Fox Foundation – Grade 6
- Halloween UNICEF collection – K-6
- School supplies to Hurricane

Katrina victims – K-11

- Red wristband fundraiser for AIDS – Senior School
- Charity calendar lesson for the SPCA & Red Cross – Elementary School
- Donation to the Montreal Children's Hospital in memory of a former student – Class of 2006

### Service activities included:

- Big Brother Programme – Senior School boys are paired with younger students to do fun activities together

- In-school community service activities (includes things such as recycling, art aides, library aides, ambassadors, morning greeters, lost-and-found, laprop aides, library aides, special event helpers, etc.) – Middle School
- Christmas baskets for St. Gabriel's Parish and The Women's Centre of Montreal – K-11 & staff
- Elementary School recycling – Grade 4
- Painting at Greene Avenue Community Centre – Grade 9

# Alumni UPDATES



misidentification of one of the young cricketers in the photo on page 55 of the Summer 2005 issue of *Veritas*? Kneeling directly in front of my late brother, Chris Seymour, and to my immediate right, is Barry Carrique, not "B. Carnegie," as your photo historian must have thought. The photo bought back some fond memories, especially as our father often assisted Messrs. Phillips and Howis in coaching the cricket team in the two years afterward, before I followed Chris on to TCS in the fall of 1950.

"Also, I must express my thanks to the kind soul who wrote the fine obituary for my brother. It included details even I did not recall."

1947

Roy Bond '47 writes: "I have no plans to visit Montreal in the near future so I cannot make any of the events for which I have received invitations. My wife and I did enjoy the photo of the 1946 Boy Scouts on the front steps at Redpath Street, which appeared on the back cover of the summer 2005 *Veritas*. Joanne actually spotted me holding a flag. I recognized quite a few faces. Rather a long time back."

1949

Anson McKim '49 writes: "The latest issue of *Veritas* caught up with me today in Métis. The photograph of the 1946 Scout Troop was great fun as we tried to identify as many of the characters as we could. Two of these souls deserve special mention.

Bev MacInnes and his bride, Margaret, stayed with us here in Métis overnight while on the eastern portion of their cross-Canada tour. In my opinion, Bev has one of the best networks of friends that I know of.

The other is not such good news. One of our classmates, Hamish Stewart, died in late May or early June of this year near his home in Martock, Somerset, England. While a student at

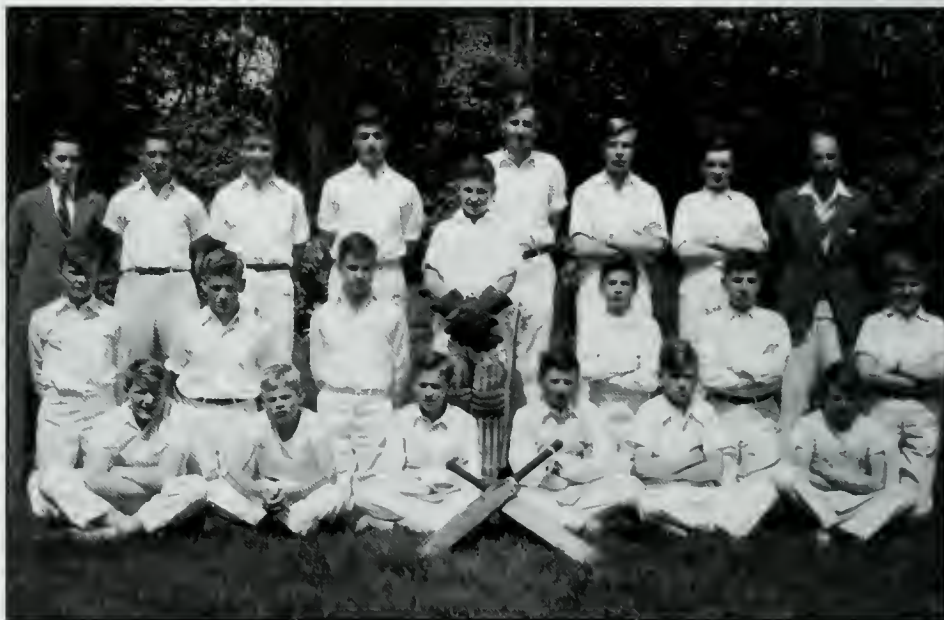
Cambridge, Hamish escorted poet Sylvia Plath to a party where she met her future husband, Ted Hughes.

1950

David L. Seymour '50 writes: "May I please draw your attention to a

1952

Michael Wilson '52 has been appointed the new ambassador to the United States, it was announced on February 15. Born in Toronto, Michael attended Selwyn House from 1947 to 1951, going on to UCC and



Senior Cricket, 1947. Back row: J. Domville, E. Pollard, E. Newcomb, Q. Raymond, B. Campbell, Chris Seymour, A. McKim and Mr. Phillips. Middle: H. Stewart, P. Northey, J. Creighton, T. Evans, B. Carrique, D. Seymour and D. Hanson. Front: D. Raper, A. Fraser, A. Ross, G. Currie, P. Milner, J. Wright



# Alumni UPDATES



the University of Toronto's Trinity College. Working as an investment executive on Bay Street, Michael was first elected to Parliament in 1979 and was

appointed to the cabinet of then Prime Minister Joe Clark. In 1983 he ran for the leadership of the Conservative Party, but lost on the first ballot and threw his support behind Brian Mulroney. He became a member of the Mulroney cabinet, first as minister of finance for seven years, then as minister of industry, science and technology and as minister of international trade.

As finance minister, he introduced the Goods and Services Tax and negotiated the Canada-US Free Trade agreement, an experience that is expected to serve him well as ambassador.

Michael returned to private life in 1993, working for RBC Dominion Securities, but has continued his involvement with the Conservative Party, serving as campaign co-chair in the recent federal election.

1969

**Michael Goldbloom '69** was the subject of a cover story in the spring 2006 issue of *Lifestyles* magazine. The article chronicled Michael's progress through the newspaper business, his start at the *Montreal Gazette*, his period as a labour lawyer and head of Alliance Quebec, and his move to Toronto to become publisher of *The Star*, Canada's largest newspaper.

1974

**Jeff Gollob '74** reports that his firm, McMillan Binch LLP, based in Toronto, completed a merger with the Mendelsohn firm of Montreal in May 2005. The merged firm, comprising approximately 180 lawyers in Toronto and Montreal, continues under the

name McMillan Binch Mendelsohn. Jeff is now spending one or two days per week in the Montreal office, and says he is looking forward to the opportunity to catch up with former classmates in Montreal.

**Tom Königsthal '74** and Valerie are thrilled to announce the arrival of Diego Scott, born June 5, 2006 and weighing in at 9 lbs., 6 oz.



Diego Scott Königsthal

1975

**Alex Beamish '75** reports in from Toronto, where he lives with his wife, Annette, and two stepsons Matthew, 18 and Adrian, 14. Matt has applied to enter Ryerson and York this fall, and both boys seem addicted to the Internet. Alex is in Web application development at Exegenix and performs with the Northern Lights, a men's chorus. He sees Andrew Malcom ('75) at Parent-Teacher nights at Danforth Collegiate, where both boys go to school and Andrew teaches English.

1978

In July, 2005, **Michael Whitehead '78** starred in *Judgement*, "a drama about imprisonment, survival, love, and the nature of humanity," written by Barry Collins. The 90-minute, one-man play, originally staged in Toronto in 2003, was revived this summer in

Toronto before travelling to Manitoba for the Winnipeg Fringe Festival.

1980

**Sean Lafleur '80** writes: "After spending about 15 years running media and technology companies, I have just set up a network of entrepreneur consultants called Flower. We try to help people and organizations achieve growth and change.

"Unfortunately I will not be able to join you at the Old Boys' Reunion, but look forward to getting back in touch in some way. I'll be at an autism conference in Paris, where my wife Andrea will be making a speech about our experiences in helping the development of our son, Sébastien. (Go to [www.leapoursamy.com](http://www.leapoursamy.com) or [www.foundation-autisme.org](http://www.foundation-autisme.org)). Our daughter, Esmé, 8, is preparing a puppet show for Sébastien's sixth birthday. Next weekend, Andrea and I will go to Prague to celebrate our 10th anniversary."



Sean, Andrea and Esmé at the garden launch party for his new consulting outfit, Flower

**Major Alfonso C. J. Torrents dels Prats, R.A. '80**, and Miss Deborah Bronnert were married at St. Paul's Cathedral on April 8, 2006.

# Alumni UPDATES

1981

Ian Aitken '81 writes: "In June I attended the wedding of my brother-in-law Andrew Leslie '87 and Mey von Moltke-Pao in Toronto. On July 28, my wife gave birth to our third child, Fiona, who joins two older brothers, Angus and Trevor. As I live on Argyle Street, I see the school virtually every day."

1984

Hagen Mehnert '84 and Stephanie are pleased to announce the arrival of Sienna. "We are having a great time getting to know her," Hagen says.



Sienna Mehnert with mom

1985

Talat Chughtai '85 writes: "I graduated from SHS in 1985, and after CEGEP and an undergraduate degree majoring in economics and math, I completed medical school at McGill University. I then did a five-year residency programme in general surgery, one year of cardiac surgery and a two-year fellowship in critical-care medicine.

"After these eight years of post-graduate education at McGill, I completed the prestigious trauma surgery fellowship at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto, and finished my post-graduate education by pursuing a



From left, Jonathan Kay, Ray Ritchie, Bobby Lunny, Chris Naudie and Jake Richler, all from the Class of 1985.

thoracic surgery apprenticeship. I am now on staff at Sunnybrook, and am pursuing a practice where I am using all the skills learnt in the past 20 years since graduating from SHS. Selwyn House provided me the foundation for being able to take on 15 years of university education at the highest of levels.

"My days (and often nights) are spent performing neck, chest, and abdominal surgery (elective and trauma cases), as well as managing patients in the intensive care unit. It is the most fulfilling of vocations, but requires a lot of dedication. Anyone thinking of a career in surgery should be aware that he will have to endure the same physical demands as someone who is training to become a world-class athlete. It also requires the capacity to study 1,000-page textbooks for 15 years after university. If you can do that, have the ability to work with people under pressure, and can endure the grueling 100 hours per week of residency training, you will find that there is no greater job in the world. It is both emotionally and financially rewarding, and is one career where one has the privilege of being able to make

a big difference on a daily basis."

Jonathan Kay '85 writes that a few members of the Class of 1985 had a mini-reunion in Toronto recently. (See photo above.)

Duncan McLaren '85 married Tomoko Kenna in Kingston, Ontario on December 10, 2005. Duncan and Tomoko live in Sendai, Japan. "The 1985 yearbook was brought as proof that Duncan once had hair!" says Richard Denis. (See photo next page.)

Ed Neuenschwander '85 writes: "I have been living in Geneva, Switzerland since 1991. I graduated from the Graduate Institute of International Studies here in 2000 and have been working in private banks since. If anyone is passing by the Geneva region or would like to get in contact, please feel free, it would be a pleasure to meet."

1986

Vito, third son of Vince Guzzo '86, was born on September 13, 2005 at 6:59 a.m. in Montreal, weighing 7.2 lbs. A brother for Angelo and Vittorio-



# Alumni UPDATES



The wedding of Duncan McLaren '85, from left to right: Timothy Bishop '85, Timothy Winn '85, Tomoko Konno, Duncan McLaren and Richard Denis '85.



Vince with sons Vittorio 2017 (left), Vito and Angelo 2015 (right)

Emanuele, Vito is the third child for father Vincenzo and the first for mother Maria.

1987

Joshua Gradinger '87 has moved from Miami to New York, where he is an Assistant District Attorney in the Gang/Major Case Bureau in the Bronx.

Andrew Leslie '87 married Mey von Moltke-Pao in Toronto in June.

1989

Alasdair Martin '89 and former SHS staffer Jennifer-Lee Thomas had their second son, Gavin Robert, on May 23, weighing 8lbs. 8oz. A brother to Euan.



Gavin Robert Martin with big brother Euan

Kevin O'Brien '89 and his wife, Snejana, were married on March 31, 2006 in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. They were very excited to have so many alumni at the wedding. Kevin and Snejana live in Calgary and both work in the petroleum industry. (See photo next page.)

1990

David Price '90 recently joined his father, Michael Price, in his publishing business, Price-Patterson Ltd. To date, Price-Patterson has focused on publishing short-run books, especially local history. Past titles include: *Skiing Legends*; *The Laurentian Lodge Club*; *A View of their Own: The Story of Westmount* and *Zegota: The Rescue of Jews in Wartime Poland*. This year the firm has published, or will be publishing: *Quebec: Bonjour*; *Imprints III*; *Four Seasons in the Eastern Townships*; *Eastern Townships Saint: Lily Esther Butters*; *Out of Bounds: The Glen Mountain Ski Story* and *Sir William Hingston: Montreal mayor, surgeon and banker*.

He recently published *The Amazing 401*, *The Practical Guide to Finding the Right Finance Job in Canada* (which he authored), *Yummy in my Tummy in Montreal* and *The St. Lawrence River*. He has also just published *Montreal from Beer to Whiskey*, a bar guide by Selwyn alumnus Hugh McGuire '91. On the calendar front, he has three 2007 titles: *The Eastern Townships*, *The Gardens of Québec*, and one entitled *The Chateauguay Valley*. Also, his monthly newspaper *Vivva Montreal* covers events and things to do in Montreal, and is distributed free in Westmount and eastern NDG.

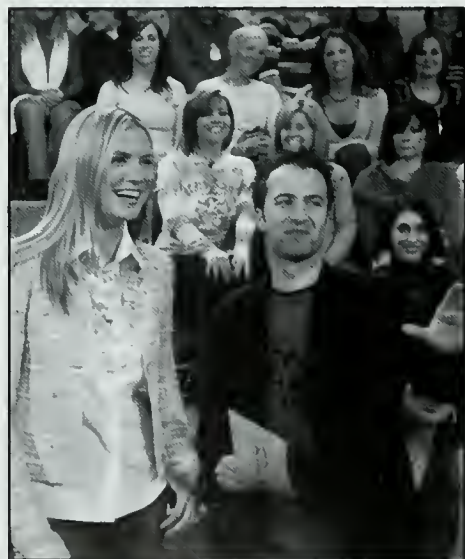
1991

Dylan Adair '91 writes: "My wife, Mia, just gave birth to our first child, a baby girl, on Saturday, August 6, 2005. Her name is Isabel Nieve Burgos-Adair. We are thrilled and very proud."

# Alumni UPDATES



From left: Jay O'Brien '82, Jon Brockhouse '89, Adam Soutar '86, David Hinchey '89, Snejana and Kevin O'Brien '89, Jon Feilding '89, Greg Raikes '89, Chris Bruneau '87, Rob Briscoe '87 and Ed Eberts '55.



Paul Starke '90 is seen here on the job as producer of The Tony Danza Show with supermodel Heidi Klum.

1992

Patrick McEntyre '92 and his wife, Daniela are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Adrian, born on January 19, 2006, weighing 7 lbs., 10 oz. The family was reportedly moving to Toronto, where Patrick will work for CIBC World Markets on their portfolio trading desk.



Daniela and Adrian McEntyre

1993

Charles Bierbrier '93 is founder and president of Bierbrier Brewing Inc., a new brewery in Montreal. The downtown brewery produces premium golden ale that is available on draft and in bottles at establishments around the city. After completing his MBA from the John Molson School of Business at Concordia University in 2003, Charles decided to pursue his long-time passion for beer and began working toward the launch of his brewery.

1994

Michael Lenczner '94 and Hugh McGuire '91 are both working on issues dealing with the concept of the commons, and how to use technology to protect and reinforce the public domain. Hugh's project is about copyright and on-line archives. Michael's is about free Internet access through the organization Ile Sans Fil and open-source software. Michael reports that the two are launching a group, Citizens for Open Access to Civic Information, which has to do with the Web.

David Turetsky '94 is in New York practising law.

Matthew Waxman '94 and Suzanne Slatnick are engaged to be married. Their wedding is planned for August 2007.

1995

Henri Guay '95 writes: "I'm terribly sorry, but I won't be able to attend the annual Old Boys' Reunion celebrating the tenth anniversary of my class of 1995. I'm in London, on my way to Nairobi, Kenya on a work assignment for the International Air Transport Association (IATA), for whom I've been working during the last year. After completing my undergraduate degree in environment at McGill, my commercial piloting experience and business interests led me to be involved with IATA. I wish I could give you some exciting life stories (such as the scholarly achievements, awards, wedding, and first children of the other Selwyn House grads), but for now, life is pretty much swallowed up whole by my work. Please wish my best to all those in attendance, and those out and about pursuing careers, wealth, and the occasional young lady."



# Alumni UPDATES

1996

**Gandhar Chakravarty '96** was recently named chairperson for the Canadian Theological Students' Conference that will be held in Montreal from March 3-9, 2007. The theme of the event is Stewards of Creation: Theology and Sustainability. The conference includes an international keynote speaker, panelists and workshop leaders from Montreal, various other people from the Montreal community, and about 50 theology students from all over Canada. "At this point we are in the very preliminary stages of planning and getting our speakers together, but if you can think of any ways that Selwyn House might be interested in participating, I'd be glad to hear them."

In June, Gandhar travelled to Poland to participate in the March of Remembrance and Hope, a living history of the concentration camps, making the trip alongside Holocaust survivors.

Gandhar's band, Far From Shore, has been getting a lot of radio airplay and enthusiastic reviews with their CD. The Montreal *Mirror* described it as "brilliant, energetic and soulful."

1997

**Matthew McLauchlin '97** received 4,641 votes in the January 23 federal election as NDP candidate for the riding of Jeanne-Le Ber, in a race that saw the Liberal incumbent, Heritage Minister Liza Frulla, ousted by the Bloc Québécois. The NDP only received 3,160 votes in this same riding in 1972, so Matthew was reportedly pleased to have gained ground. "People see us as the other option to the traditional parties they can no longer support," he told *The Gazette*.

1998

**Ira Turetsky**, father of David '94 and **Mark Turetsky '98**, recently e-mailed Ms. Biggs: "Our boys are fine. They're

both in New York. Mark is trying to break into acting, and hopes to become established doing voice-over work."

1999

**Alex Bellemare-Davis '99** is in the second year of his master's programme at Queen's. His mother reports that Alex has been playing ultimate Frisbee all over the map this past summer, including the U.S. College Nationals in Oregon and the Canadian University Nationals in Winnipeg. "He seems to be totally hooked," she says.

**Sohil Rangwala '99** writes: "I just moved to Ottawa and things are great. I just graduated medical school from McGill and am starting residency on July 1 in the nation's capital."

**Jonathan Nuss '99** writes: "I am now living in Copenhagen, working as the assistant to the secretary general of the Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA). Interesting work, and a great city to live in. I was looking at the Selwyn House Alumni Directory recently, and was wondering if there is some sort of formalized network for SHS alumni in Europe. Could you let me know?"

*Editor's Note: Old Boys, staff, and parents can list their e-mail address and geographic location on the Alumni and Friends E-mail Directory located under the Alumni heading at [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca). Here one can search by region or city to find out if other Old Boys are in the neighbourhood!*

**Andrew Johnston '99** writes: "I finished my BA from Queen's last year, and am now studying law at Laval University in Quebec City, (which, unfortunately, does not allow me much time for playing the guitar). This past summer I worked for a publishing company run by another Old Boy, David Price '90. David has written a book on finding jobs in

finance in Canada, which would probably interest a number of recent graduates."

**Theo McLauchlin '99** writes: "I'm currently in the U.K., studying for an MSc in nationalism and ethnicity at the London School of Economics, having earned a Commonwealth Scholarship for the year. I'm planning to return to finish an MA in political science at McGill next year before moving on to a PhD at some undefined stage in the future."

2000

**Pablo Durana 2000** is reportedly putting the finishing touches on a documentary chronicling the trek across northwestern China he and his sister Maria made last year. The two spent 118 days cycling across 2,700 miles of uncharted deserts and snowy mountain ranges, following no pre-planned route and making countless friendships among the many ethnic groups that populate the region. "It was a chance to explore and put yourself in a situation where you don't have entire control," Pablo says. "Interesting travel is where you get out of that comfort zone and kind of expose yourself."

Pablo was able to make the trip by winning a Burch Fellowship at the University of North Carolina, where he is majoring in communications studies. He has now completed a National Geographic Television internship and is wrapping up his documentary based on the 30 hours of videotape he shot while on the trek.

Pablo's China expedition, along with his academic achievements and tutoring work, has earned him a spot on USA Today's All-Academic Team.

**Pablo Durana 2000** and **Tristram Thomas 2004** are leading the University of North Carolina cross-country team with some very good performances this year. On September

# Alumni UPDATES

24, Pablo finished twenty-third overall with an 8K time of 24:59.20 in the Nike Race of Champions at the Great American XC Festival in North Carolina. Tristram came in fifth for the Tar Heels team, finishing in fifty-seventh place with a time of 25:57.90. On October 14, the UNC team finished third at the Blue Ridge Invitational, with Pablo coming in sixteenth overall with an 8K time of 25:40.4.

On October 31, Pablo led his team with a seventeenth-place finish and a time of 24:28.7; Tristram was next for the Tar Hells, finishing twenty-ninth overall with a time of 24:48.4.

For the latest race results, go to [www.unc.edu](http://www.unc.edu) and click "athletics" and then "cross country" in the men's section.

Chris Robinson 2000 was unable to make it to the 2005 Old Boys' Reunion because he was in London, England for the last work term of his co-op programme at Concordia. He will be returning to the Bank of England, where he spent his first work term. Last summer he spent four months at the Department of Defence in Ottawa for his second term.

Chris has also been busy with his army career, where he is currently a corporal with his unit. This summer he was in Shilo, Manitoba, where he successfully completed his master corporal course and then stayed on to teach basic training to the new recruits. He is planning to volunteer for a tour of duty overseas when he has finished his B.Eng at Concordia.

Chris was inducted into the International Golden Key Honour Society at the end of his first year at Concordia. Reportedly, the only Selwyn House alumnus he sees on a regular basis is Danny Su, who remains his best friend. Less frequently he sees Sarib Shaikh and Leslie Chow, who both live in Brossard.

2001

**Warren Davis 2001** is finishing his senior year at Tufts University in Boston. He presented a paper he wrote entitled "Moderating the Corporate Defendant Bias" to the American Psychology-Law Society in St. Petersburg, Florida in March 2006. He will be attending McGill Law School this fall.

In July 2006 **Adam Rozencajg 2001** joined Lehman Brothers in New York as an analyst in their investment banking department. Adam paid a visit to Selwyn House during the American Thanksgiving holiday.

**Andrew Sniderman 2001** writes: "The genocide in Darfur, Sudan has claimed 400,000 lives and displaced over 2.5 million people. Five hundred people continue to die each day; 15,000 die every month. Government-sponsored militias raze villages, systematically rape women and girls, abduct children, and destroy food and water supplies. Nevertheless, I really think that for the people of Darfur, it is not too late. Yet. "I've decided to do something. I'm supporting the Genocide Intervention Fund (GIF). The aims of the GIF are to provide critically needed supplies to the peacekeepers, increase public awareness about genocide, and pressure governments to protect victims of genocide."

To donate to the Genocide Intervention Fund, please visit <http://www.genocideinterventionfund.org/donate/>.

If you would like to receive daily Darfur news briefs, please click here: [http://mail.thegif.org/mailman/listinfo/dnb\\_thegif.org](http://mail.thegif.org/mailman/listinfo/dnb_thegif.org).

**Dan Wilner 2001** says he plans to be in New York City this summer working for a refugee aid organization called the International Rescue Committee, teaching refugee students English, math, and arts. His brother

**Ben 2005** hopes to work for the same organization, too.

2002

**Keith Martin 2002** writes: "I'm taking summer courses as part of my engineering physics degree, one of which is a robotics course. I was never on the robotics team at Selwyn House, but the goal of this course is to design and build an automated robot as a sea-to-sky transporter for the 2010 Olympics. Teams of four students design and build the robot over the course of 12 weeks, which ends in a competition between all the robots. The team that can transport the most dolls from one end of the playing course to the next in a three-minute run wins. Robots use a variety of components, techniques, and designs to navigate the course and collect and store dolls. Designs vary greatly between teams. The robot is controlled using MIT's Handyboard, designed for a similar course at MIT. Students get mechanical, electrical, and software design experience, as well as machining experience and general team design experience. This is the sixth year the course has been running, and every engineering physics student gains a lot from it, no matter how frustrating the task may seem along the way!

"I'll try and send along some pictures and diagrams of the robot, as well as our final report, which will outline the entire design of our robot. Perhaps the guys in the SHS Physics Department (Brad Moffat, in particular) would be interested in seeing the information, and possibly the robotics students could get some ideas for their designs, and the physics teachers could get some ideas for their own annual competition. Details of the course and the competition can be found at [www.physics.ubc.ca](http://www.physics.ubc.ca)."

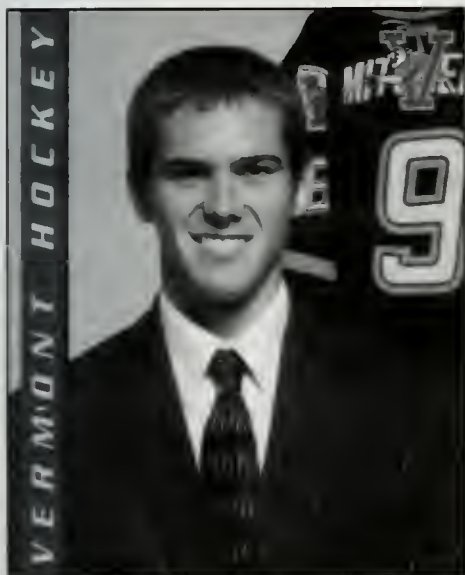
**Eric Martz 2002** was ranked second in his second-year law class at McGill. He



# Alumni UPDATES

has a great job for the summer doing research for his intellectual property professor.

**Jonathan Medalsy 2002** will complete his final year in Honours biochemistry at Queen's.



**Torrey Mitchell 2002**, now in his sophomore year at the University of Vermont, is in second place in the Hockey East conference with six goals and 16 assists, says the school's Web site. As top centre for the Vermont Catamounts and a cornerstone on the team's power play and penalty kill squads, Torrey has been instrumental in earning his team a third-place ranking in U.S. university play. In the 2004 entry draft, Torrey was selected by the San Jose Sharks at 126th overall in the fourth round. Torrey attended the Sharks' prospect camp in August, and is said to be on the short list of the team's future prospects.

In April, Torrey was named co-captain of the University of Vermont Catamounts for the 2006-2007 season. Torrey played in all 38 games in this past season and led the Catamounts in scoring with 12 goals and 28 assists, for 40 points. He finished eighth in Hockey East scoring

and third in assists. He was named an honourable mention Hockey East All-Star and was named to the Hockey East Weekly Honour roll eight times. In addition, he was named to the Nye Frontier Classic and Sheraton/TD Banknorth Catamount Cup All-Tournament teams.

**2004**

**Bryce Durafour 2004**, now in his second year in health sciences at Marianopolis, garnered 175 votes in his bid to represent the Côte-de-Liesse district at Montreal City Council in the November municipal elections.



**Michael Lazar 2004** will attend Cornell University's College of Engineering this September.

**Andrew Medalsy 2004** will begin University of Ottawa this September. He will be doing an Honours BA, with a major in communications. He was also offered a scholarship.

**2006**

**Angelo Esposito 2006** was picked to be one of 34 candidates for Canada's national junior hockey team, it was announced on December 6. The announcement comes as a surprise because Hockey Canada's guidelines demand that candidates have international playing experience at the under-17 and under-18 levels, something Angelo does not have. But Team Canada coaches feel that being ranked fourth in the Quebec Major Junior scoring makes up for a lack of international experience. Angelo has been attending Shattucks-St. Mary's in Minnesota, the same prep school attended by Sidney Crosby, and the comparisons don't end there.

**Charles Jordan 2006** writes from Atlanta: "Hello, Mr. Ladd, how are things going in Canada? It's me, Charles Jordan from last year's 7th grade. Just to let you know I'm fitting in fine at my new school. It's a different experience because I am in a mixed school. I don't enjoy science as much, because our teacher is not much fun. Although I have made many new friends, they are not as numerous or as good as the ones at Selwyn House."



## Selwyn House School turning 100! Constituents, unite!

Mark your calendars for a year of fun from November 2007 to November 2008! Get involved and help with the planning of a year's worth of activities. Old Boys, students, current and former parents and staff can assist now with any of the following: Archives, Gala Fundraiser, History Book, Alumni Reunions and Chapter Events, and more! For more information, please contact Courtney Prieur at: (514) 931-9481, ext. 246, [prieur@selwyn.ca](mailto:prieur@selwyn.ca)

# OBITUARIES

**Andrea Bronfman**, wife of the well-known Canadian philanthropist Charles Bronfman '46, and a committed philanthropist in her own right, died in New York on Monday, January 23. Bronfman reportedly succumbed to injuries she sustained when a car skidded off the road and struck her while she was enjoying a morning walk. She was 60. Her funeral was on January 27 in Israel; a memorial service was also held in New York.

The Bronfmans are among the world's leading Jewish philanthropists. The Andrea and Charles Bronfman Foundation supports a broad spectrum of organizations and institutions in the field of education, welfare and strengthening Jewish identity. Andrea Bronfman was an art collector who devoted much of her time to supporting cultural institutions and artists. She was also active in the campaign for Soviet Jewry.

Andrea was born in England but spent much of her life in Israel, as her parents had been connected from the early days of the state with leading Israeli politicians. They were active in Jewish and Zionist causes in England as well.

The Bronfman brothers are heirs to the Seagrams alcoholic beverages giant, and have been extremely active in Jewish and general philanthropic endeavors in Israel and in North America for decades.

**Chantal Brunet**, mother of Francis Petrella 8B, died at the West Island Palliative Care Residence in Kirkland on December 9, 2005, at age 40, after a ten-year battle with cancer. She was predeceased by her father, Georges Brunet, and is survived by her mother, Lisette, her husband, Pierre, her brother, Alain (Veronica), and her niece, Hope, as well as her son, Francis.

**J. Brian Clarke** father of Mark Esposito 2005, passed away peacefully on June 2, 2006 aged 67 years. Loving and devoted husband of Mary Di Palma. Dear father of Mark Esposito, Johanna (Mark Hekimian) and Krystina (Luc Beaudoin). Cherished grandfather of Tatyana, Brianna, Kamron and Catherine. Survived by his sister Linda (William Bertram) of Toronto.

A native Torontonion, Brian fell in love with and adopted Montreal as his city when he first arrived in 1967. He had a lifelong fascination with toys of all sorts. An avid model train builder, Brian worked in the toy industry for many years, moving to New York City in 1983 and rising to become Chief Executive of Coleco, a major North American toy manufacturer. He "discovered" the famous Cabbage Patch Kids and had the foresight and skill to lead the promotion of his "kids" to become one of the most

successful products in the history of children's dolls. At the time of his death, Brian was Executive Vice-President of Strategy First, a leading computer games creator and manufacturer. He firmly believed in giving back to his communities and fellow citizens, serving as a director of Stanstead College, and on the boards of the United Church. For over twenty-five years, Brian's home-away-from-home was his summer residence at Bark Lake, Quebec. The perennial mayor of the town of Barkmere, he showed his love of the area and of its residents by giving untold hours to the preservation of its environment and the life style he enjoyed so much.

**Beverly Ann (Petty) Creighton**, mother of Christopher Creighton '80, passed away July 1, 2006 at home after suffering the distress of Alzheimer's for many years, with her husband Paul, daughter Amy and son-in-law Ed at her side. A novelist, journalist, explorer, adventurer, she was sixty-seven years old. She is also survived by beloved son Christopher, daughter-in-law Minako and grandson Yuki Leslie.

**Cynthia Dobell** (née Powell) died suddenly in Chicago on June 9, 2006. Wife of Anthony R. C. Dobell '42, mother of Karen Waldmeier (Leo), Richard Curzon (Mary Lynn Fiske), Julie Ann and Sarah and grandmother of Cynthia and Rosemary Waldmeier, Emma and Julia Fiske-Dobell, Erin and Sarah Dobell Colby and Colin Dobell Greenlaw. Sister of Robert R. Powell '43 of Hilton Head, Mary Culver of Montreal (wife of David M. Culver '39, mother of Andrew '70, Mark '74 and Michael '67 and grandmother of David Gray 2004) and J. Andrew Powell '45 of London, England, (father of Nicholas Powell '79 and Christopher '77). In lieu of flowers, donations to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, P.O. Box 5000, Station H, Montreal, QC, H3G 2T9, would be sincerely appreciated.

**Mark Farrel** '23, former publisher of the Montreal *Gazette* and the *Windsor Star*, died on April 6, 2006 at his home in Morrisville, Vermont, at age 93. He was described by the *Gazette* as "a gregarious loner, a living contradiction in terms...a social democrat who was an astute businessman." Born the son of a prominent Montreal stockbroker, Mark was taken out of Selwyn House when his father died in 1923 and sent to a boarding school in England. In 1931 he returned to Montreal to study economics at McGill, and also studied at the American Institute of Moscow University. Returning to Canada once more, he became involved with the CCF, forerunner of the NDP.



# OBITUARIES

After the war he was hired by the *Montreal Star*, moving in 1969 to the *Windsor Star*, where he made history for being the first publisher of a prominent daily to endorse the NDP. He presided over the *Montreal Gazette* through the heady days of the mid-70's, retiring in 1976. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Florence Wall, and two daughters.

**John Archibald Fuller** died on June 6, 2006. Born March 31, 1925 to Jack Fuller and Katherine Boyd, John was raised in Westmount. He attended LCC and BCS. During the war he served in the Navy in Halifax, later graduating from McGill University and joining Nesbitt Burns, where he worked until his retirement in December 2000. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Elizabeth Hobart and his two sons, David William and Henry James. He is survived by his daughters, Nancy Fuller, Micki Morton (Peter '70) and Jill Gibson, as well as grandchildren David Lindsay, Jeffery 2002, Katie, Alex 2005, Garrett, Austin, Tory, Wesley and Steele, and by brother William and sisters Lella and Nancy.

**Robert Graydon Weir Goodall M.D., F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S.** '40 died in Kingston, Ontario on May 27, 2006 from the complications of Parkinson's disease. Husband of Helen (Ayer) and father of Wendy, Creech (Chris), Jamie '75 and Robert '75, and grandfather of Tierney, Tyler and Jay CJ and Tia, Maddie and Kenzie. Predeceased by his parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Goodall, and sisters Twink and Shirley. Born July 27, 1924, Gay attended Selwyn House School and TCS, served in WW2 (RCNVR), graduated from McGill Faculty of Medicine in 1953, and practised surgery at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Montreal for over 30 years. Gay's wife, Helen, a former Selwyn House board member, was instrumental in bringing former SHS Librarian Virginia Ferguson to the school.

**John Markland Molson** '66, a member of Montreal's famous family of brewers and bankers, died in Florida on January 18, 2006. He was 56. Mark was the oldest of four sons of William Markland Molson '33, a stockbroker and part owner of the Montreal Canadiens. Mark attended Selwyn House from 1956 to 1962, going on to graduate from BCS and McGill. After a brief stint at the family's brewing company, Mark became a professional bridge player, an unconventional career move for a member of the Molson clan. Described as "a superstar" of the bridge world, Mark won eight Canadian championships and two medals representing his country in international competition. He was also an avid golf and tennis player. While on the links in Florida in January, he complained of chest pains and was



The 1961 Selwyn House Junior Soccer team, with Mark Molson '66 on the left in the front

taken to hospital. He died the following day.

**Elizabeth (Holly) Rorke Nelson**, mother of David Haber '94, died at home on December 2, 2005. Born on December 23, 1947 in Montreal, Holly is survived by her daughter, Carrie Elizabeth Haber (Daniel Webster), and son, David Nelson Haber.

**Charles Edward (Ned) Pacaud** '22 died in New York on May 3, 2006. He was born on December 8, 1908, the son of George W. Pacaud and Henriette Pacaud Oswald. Ned is survived by his wife, Victoria, of Bermuda, his former wife, Nancy Pacaud, his sister Lucille Pacaud, his children Jill den Hertog (Jan), Tony (Susan), Marcia and Jeremy (Gail). Ned was a graduate of McGill University, Faculty of Arts. He was a keen sportsman and formed part of the McGill gymnastics team for many years. He excelled at racket

sports and held, with his partner, the Canadian Doubles Rackets championship on three occasions. He was owner-manager of Geo. W. Pacaud Insurance and, prior to retiring in Bermuda in 1965, was president of the Guarantee Co. of North America. During World War II he served in the Royal Canadian Navy volunteer reserve, where he did sea

*Continued on next page*

# OBITUARIES

*Continued from previous page.*

duty and retired as a Lt. Commander.

**Jelena "Helen" (Mijuskovic) Papich** mother of Fil '77, and grandmother of Stef 2006, Sasha 2008 and Nikki 2010, died on Sunday, April 16. An accomplished scholar, mother, grandmother and community volunteer, she was born in Yugoslavia on June 2, 1924. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Dragutin (Drago) F. Papich. Devoted mother of Joanne (Pierre), Aleksandra (George) and Filip (Carole).

**Wendy Patricia Rideout (née Vaughan)**, died on Saturday, May 5, 2006, after a courageous struggle with cancer, only eight months after the death of her husband, Reg. Born in London, England, Wendy is survived by her sons, Christopher and Nicholas '80, and by her grandchildren, Sean and Nicole. Wendy enjoyed volunteering many hours and her considerable creative talents to the activities of the Auxiliary to the Montreal Chest Institute, rising to the leadership role of president. A resident of Montreal since 1969, she was an active member of the Mount Royal Tennis Club, a former interior designer, model, and freelance journalist, and served as president of the auxiliary to the Montreal Chest Institute. Wendy will be missed by her family and her many friends from the UK, Jamaica and Montreal. Donations in her memory may be made to the auxiliary.

**Logan Savard '70** died peacefully on May 25, 2006, at the Montreal General Hospital. Logan is predeceased by his parents Guy and Anne Marie (LeSage). He will be sadly missed by Daphne (Miller), son Johnathan Peirce and daughter Sarah Marie Savard, sister Cally (Bowen) of Toronto, nephews David and Guy Bowen and Sarah Miller of Toronto.

**Jon Haldane Scott '64**, died suddenly on December 11, 2004 in Montreal, at age 57. Jon started at Selwyn House in 1955 when the school was located on Redpath Street. He was a member of the school's first graduating class from the Senior School, and received the Brainerd Award for 1961-62. He was active in the debating society, was the hockey team's goalie, and was a prefect for three years. Following Selwyn House, Jon obtained a Bachelor of Arts and a Civil Law degree from McGill University, where he was a member of the Kappa Alpha Society. Jon was a partner at the Montreal law firm McMaster Meighen from 1984-1999 specializing in insurance, particularly maritime insurance. In 1999, he moved to Enosburg Falls, Vermont, where he continued to work as legal counsel to Lloyd's of London Canada, while also acting as executive director of

the Opera House at Enosburg Falls and as zoning administrator for the village of Enosburg Falls. Jon loved fly fishing and started a trout farm with SHS alumnus Nick Spillane '70, raising rainbow trout for restaurants and pond stocking. He is survived by his wife, Cynthia Li Scott, of Enosburg Falls, VT, his mother Jean Carroll Scott, and sister Lindsay Scott Suthren both of Ottawa, Canada. Memorial services were held in December 2004 in Montreal, and in June 2005 in Enosburg.

**Richard Graham Shore '36** died peacefully at the Lakeshore General Hospital in Pointe Claire on September 16, 2005, at age 83. Predeceased by his wife, Phyllis Frances, he is survived by his three children, **Ion Graham '71** (Iris), Martha Helen (Anthony) and Alison Mary (Thomas), as well as three grandchildren, Jillian, Madelyn and Caroline. He served his country with pride in the Royal Canadian Air Force and went on to enjoy a distinguished career as a chartered accountant.

**Keith Gordon Stonehouse** passed away at his home on Friday, March 10, 2006 surrounded by his family. He leaves behind his beloved son Joseph 2004, step daughter Zoe, his sister Pam, brother Brian, brother-in-law Mike, sister-in-law Julie. His nephew Ian and niece Rachel, also aunts, uncles and cousins, his dear friend Kathy and her family, Jennifer, Steve and Nana and his buddy Harley. Special thanks to the CLSC to Heather, Peggy and Jeannine from the VON Beaconsfield Branch, to all the doctors and nurses, who took care of him, Dr. Caplan and Louise. In lieu of flowers donations to the VON Beaconsfield would be appreciated.

**Peter Winkworth '47**, an expert in early Canadian art who has been described as "the last of the great collectors," died in London, England on August 20, 2005. Born on April 25, 1929 to a wealthy Quebec family, Peter's interest in art began in his teen years. After graduating from Selwyn House in 1947, he attended Oxford and then settled in London, where he worked as a stockbroker. Over the years, he amassed one of the largest collections of its kind in the world, some 4,000 pieces of which were sold to the National Archives of Canada in 2002 and will be on a national tour soon. Mr. Winkworth was made a member of the Order of Canada in 1983.



## Donated memoir has SHS connections

Recently I had the great good fortune to meet, at her home in Vancouver, P. K. Page, a Canadian poet (and painter, author of prose, recipient of the Order of Canada, grades 1 and 3, and wife of one-time Canadian High Commissioner to Australia and Ambassador to Brazil and Mexico, the late Arthur Irwin). She has just published her memoirs in verse, as opposed to poetry. In it she recalls her days in Montreal as part of a circle which included Patrick Anderson, who taught me French in Form A, but was better at English. She refers to posing nude for Patrick's artist wife, who had to cover PK with a blanket when Selwyn House students came to be tutored at the Anderson household.

At any rate, because of that reference and because she's good and Canadian (and fun, even at 90!), I'd like to send the SHS library a copy of *Hand Luggage* (the memoir) as well as copies of her books of poetry, which I've not read. They're published by The Porcupine's Quill, which is located here in Erin. I've read her memoir, and found it to be absolutely captivating. There's great feeling and rhythm, as well as great description. My mother said the words were like music. PK said it's been somewhat panned because it's "not poetry," but she hadn't meant it to be—just verse.

All the best, Anson R McKim '49

P.S. Incidentally, I found Patrick Anderson's autograph in my copy of the 1945-46 SHS magazine.

### Old Boys' Association Merit Scholarship

*Each year, the Selwyn House Old Boys' Association grants a \$1,000 scholarship to the top Grade 6 student entering Grade 7, plus an equal grant to the top new student entering Grade 7 from outside the school. The letter below was written by Jake Levy 2011, the Grade 6 student who received this year's scholarship.*

Mr. Fil Papich

President, Selwyn House Old Boys' Association

Dear Mr. Papich,

I would like to thank you and the Old Boys' Association very much for the Old Boys' Association Merit Scholarship. Having a scholarship is a great honour—an honour that you have enabled me to get.

Selwyn House is a phenomenal school, and you have just made it even better. I will continue to work hard to make the school and the association proud. I will not let you down.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Jake Philip Levy 2011

## Sable Island painting donated to school

Mr. Art "Bucky" Buckmaster, age 92, who taught chemistry at Westmount High from 1944-1971 when that school was located in our present-day Lucas Building, recently donated a painting to Selwyn House School.

Originally from Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, Bucky was a friend of Latin teacher Doug Lawly, a Cape Bretoner. Lawly made many paintings of Sable Island, often flying there to photograph and paint the wild ponies.

In the early 60s, Mr. Lawly gave Bucky a gift of one of the Sable Island paintings. Bucky recently decided that the rightful home for the painting was in the Lucas Building, where the two men taught when it was Westmount High.

"This building has so many memories," explained Bucky. "This is the best place for it."

Mr. Lawley "loved painting and he loved teaching Latin," said Mr. Buckmaster. "Now the painting is home."



Mr. and Mrs. Buckmaster present the painting of Sable Island ponies to Headmaster Will Mitchell.

# Staff UPDATES



Selwyn House Middle School English / history teacher **Bob Bouskill** and his wife, Joan, are the proud parents of a second daughter, **Holland Eleanor Bouskill**, born on July 29, 2005, weighing 8lbs., 6oz., a sister for Miller.



healthy and very happy," **Fernando** reports. "We also moved back to Montreal at the beginning of April."



Senior science teacher **Tom Downey** and his wife, Jenne, had their first baby, **James Douglass**, born June 22, 2006, weighing 8 lbs., 2 oz. and 21 inches tall.

Elementary French teacher **Martin Rondeau** will be on sabbatical leave for next year.

Elementary French teacher **Nathalie Frigon** will be on maternity leave for next year.

Senior math teacher **Kelly Von Eschen** will return from maternity leave.

Elementary teacher **Tim Peters** will return from family leave.



**Brenna**, second child of Middle School English / history teacher **Matt McCarney** and his wife, Felicia, was born at 3:12 on October 31st, a sister for Jamie.

Former SHS teacher **Fernando Kucher** and his wife, Pamela, are overjoyed to announce that they are now four. Twins **Soffia** and **Nicolás** were born on April 27th at 1:24 and 1:25 a.m., respectively. "We are all



**Isabelle Goyer with daughter Charlotte, born August 24, 2005**

Kindergarten teacher **Isabelle Goyer** will return from maternity leave.

Selwyn House Librarian **Lis Clemens** recently made a successful defence of her Ph.D. thesis.

**Ms. Rebecca McCaig**, who has done an excellent job as maternity leave replacement in Grades 1 and 2, has accepted a position at ECS for next year. We wish her all the best.

**Mr. Johnny Brisson** leaves after two years as a member of the computer technician team. We appreciate Mr. Brisson's contribution to keeping things running smoothly in the computer department.

Former SHS Elementary School teacher **Christine Gervais** had her first baby on June 30. **Zoe Katherine Gregory** was born at 3:20 a.m. at St. Mary's Hospital, weighing 8 lbs., with 10 fingers and lots of dark hair. Christine and Pat were exhausted but overjoyed.

## Staff DEPARTURES

Elementary French teacher **Nathalie Lacroix** leaves after 13 years at Selwyn House. Nathalie will be moving to **Lauren Hill Academy** as Vice-Principal in the Secondary School.

"You have contributed greatly to the evolution of the French programme in the Elementary School," said Headmaster Mitchell at Prizegiving.

"Your thorough, calm and professional competence have been enormously appreciated, both by your students and colleagues."





# Virginia Ferguson organizing archives

By Virginia Ferguson, Retired Selwyn House Librarian

Surrounded by dusty boxes and broken frames, I have resurfaced as volunteer archivist for Selwyn House, carefully cataloging treasures retrieved from the attic and various storage areas during the recent construction and renovation projects. Working two days a week, I have been adding to the archive database since before the December holidays.

The job of compiling an archive database was begun by Old Boy Josh Wisenthal '99 last summer. Now, more than 46 archive boxes line the inner wall of the Advancement/Business office. In the boxes are old attendance records, very old class roll books, a few old tuition bills, hundreds of photos, trophies, awards, certificates, as well as various items that were left in the original one-room Wanstall Library after being put on display in the 1930's 1940's and 1950's. There are also family items, such as old family trees hand-lettered on parchment and a drawing of a family coat of arms.

I am attempting to fully identify each boy and staff member in every photo by matching faces in the photos to those found in the old *Veritas* magazines and more recent Selwyn House yearbooks. Although I have many years' experience as a staff member to help her with the identification of photo subjects, you, as Selwyn House family, friends and Old Boys, may find me calling or e-mailing for help with information on team members and unidentified classmates. For example, who would like to supply information on boys in a 1935 photo with the Ross Memorial Trophy in a team shot that also includes Richard Stikeman, '39, or the boy to the right of Karim Nader in a team photo with coach Pete Govan from 1984?

Once the records are all complete, there remains the question of where to display these items in a small Selwyn



Virginia immersed in a labour of love

House history "museum." Items in danger of decay will need to be put in acid-free archival envelopes and storage units.

If you are interested in working on this project as well, please contact Courtney Prieur in the Advancement Office.

## Staff DEPARTURES

This year, Lorayne Winn retires after 17 years as assistant librarian. "Lorayne has contributed significantly to what the library brings to the overall school experience for students," says Headmaster Mitchell. "Her complete reliability and her warm and friendly way have helped hundreds of students learn to appreciate the value of good libraries."

Retired Librarian Virginia Ferguson recalls Lorayne "sitting at the circulation desk deep in conversation with each successive little boy as he proudly showed her the book he wanted to take home."

"She is kind beyond words and has infinite patience for children, little and big," says Lorayne's colleague and friend, former Assistant Librarian Susan Lord.



# Former athletic director still going strong

By Martha Wood Lewis, former staff

**M**artin Lewis, head of Physical Education at Selwyn House from 1960 to 1973, is still a very active man at age 71.

In July 2005, he rode in Ontario's two-day Multiple Sclerosis Ride from Grand Bend to London and back, about 180 km, raising more than \$2500 for that worthy cause. That was Martin's seventh year of participation, and he is registered once again to fund-raise and ride for them this summer. But cycling 50 km or more several times a week is actually nothing unusual for Martin. Most days he also swims about a kilometre before breakfast!

What makes this all the more remarkable is the fact that Martin suffered from two childhood illnesses. At the age of nine, he was paralyzed and bedridden for three months with polio, after which he had to learn to walk again. At age 11, he was run over by a car, breaking his leg in five places. His recuperation, following serious infections, took more than five months; the doctors told his family he would always walk with a cane. Obviously the young patient was not listening to that parr!

Staying active and fit (and being Welsh) is part of who he is, just as he has always been identified with the game of rugby, which he introduced to Selwyn House at the start of his teaching career in Montreal. Former students may remember training with him, running the hilly streets of Westmount, with Mr. Lewis wearing a body cast as he recovered from a back injury! Martin played rugby—in Wales, in Canada and in Asia—for more than 65 years!

In March 2005, in Hong Kong, Martin played his last tournament game at the Kowloon Rugbyfest, an annual event preceding the Hong Kong International Rugby Sevens. He participated for four years, being named Most Valuable Player in 2002. In a festival of international club rugby for men ranging from ages 18 to 45, he was the very inspiring exception.

Martin first enjoyed rugby matches in Hong Kong as a member of Her Majesty's Royal Air Force team while posted there in 1959. It was just as thrilling for him to take to the pitch for fast-paced and exciting club rugby in 2002 through 2005, in a tournament where he is affectionately and very respectfully known as "The Old Man of Rugby."

But with no regrets, he hung up his muddy boots after the HK Bali Memorial Fiftens game last year, where he played alongside his son Trevor, 31, then living in Seoul, South Korea.

While he does coach some local rugby in his home area of Mount Forest in Ontario, Martin now focuses his energy



July 2005: Martin raised \$2500 for Multiple Sclerosis

on cycling and swimming and training others, as well as building and rebuilding bikes. He is also teaching his son Owen's little boy, Spencer, to throw a mini rugby ball. As always, Martin is an energetic encourager through his words and his lifestyle, inspiring people of all ages to stay active, healthy and fit—for life.

Martin has four sons, Mark (Denver), Ciaron (Mississauga), Trevor (Moscow), and Owen (Toronto).

## Wanted! Your Memories!



The SHS Centennial Committee is collecting stories, memorabilia and other archival material to include in the upcoming SHS history book, for centennial displays, and to help build the school's archives in general. Submit your stories, anecdotes and artifacts to Courtney Prieur at: 931-9481, ext. 246, or by e-mail at [prieur@selwyn.ca](mailto:prieur@selwyn.ca).



## Keep in touch!

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Westmount, QC H3Y 2H8

Date:

Year of Graduation:

Name:

Address:

Telephone (Res):

(Bus):

News:

► Please visit our Web site at [www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca) and register in the alumni directory.

Please mail, fax or e-mail us your news about graduations, career changes,  
recent travels, births, and marriages.

Fax: (514) 931-7152

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PLEASE  
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POSTAGE

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STUDENT  
+ PARENT  
+ SCHOOL  
= SUCCESS



# ADMISSION OPEN HOUSE 2006-2007

ALL GRADES • Wednesday, October 4

KINDERGARTEN • Friday, November 17

Application deadlines

Gr. 5-11 • October 13

K to Gr. 4 • November 24



Contact the Admission office for more information.

Tel: (514) 931-2775

admission@selwyn.ca    www.selwyn.ca

95, chemin Côte St-Antoine, Westmount, Québec H3Y 2H8





Selwyn House School championship Under-15 hockey team, 1956

PLEASE JOIN US FOR SELWYN HOUSE SCHOOL'S  
**28TH ANNUAL OLD BOYS' REUNION**

*Special Anniversary Years: 1955, 1956, 1976, 1981, 1991, 1996*

**Friday, September 29, 2006**

5:00 p.m. Tours of the Selwyn House campus

6:00 p.m. Cocktails

7:00 p.m. Dinner

9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Pub (Cash Bar)

*An evening for Old Boys. Spouses/guests welcome.*

Register now using the On-line Event Registration button at  
[www.selwyn.ca](http://www.selwyn.ca)

<b>Tickets:</b>	<b>Payment:</b>
In advance: \$50 by September 22	On-line Event Registration at <a href="http://www.selwyn.ca">www.selwyn.ca</a> ;
At door: \$60	by MasterCard, VISA, or American Express;
Recent Grads (2002-2006): \$25	or by cheque payable to Selwyn House Association
Former Staff: Complimentary Dinner, Cash Bar	Cancellation: Full cash refund before Sept. 22, 2006

RSVP: James McMillan, Director of Advancement  
 (514) 931-9481, ext. 269 [mcmillan@selwyn.ca](mailto:mcmillan@selwyn.ca)